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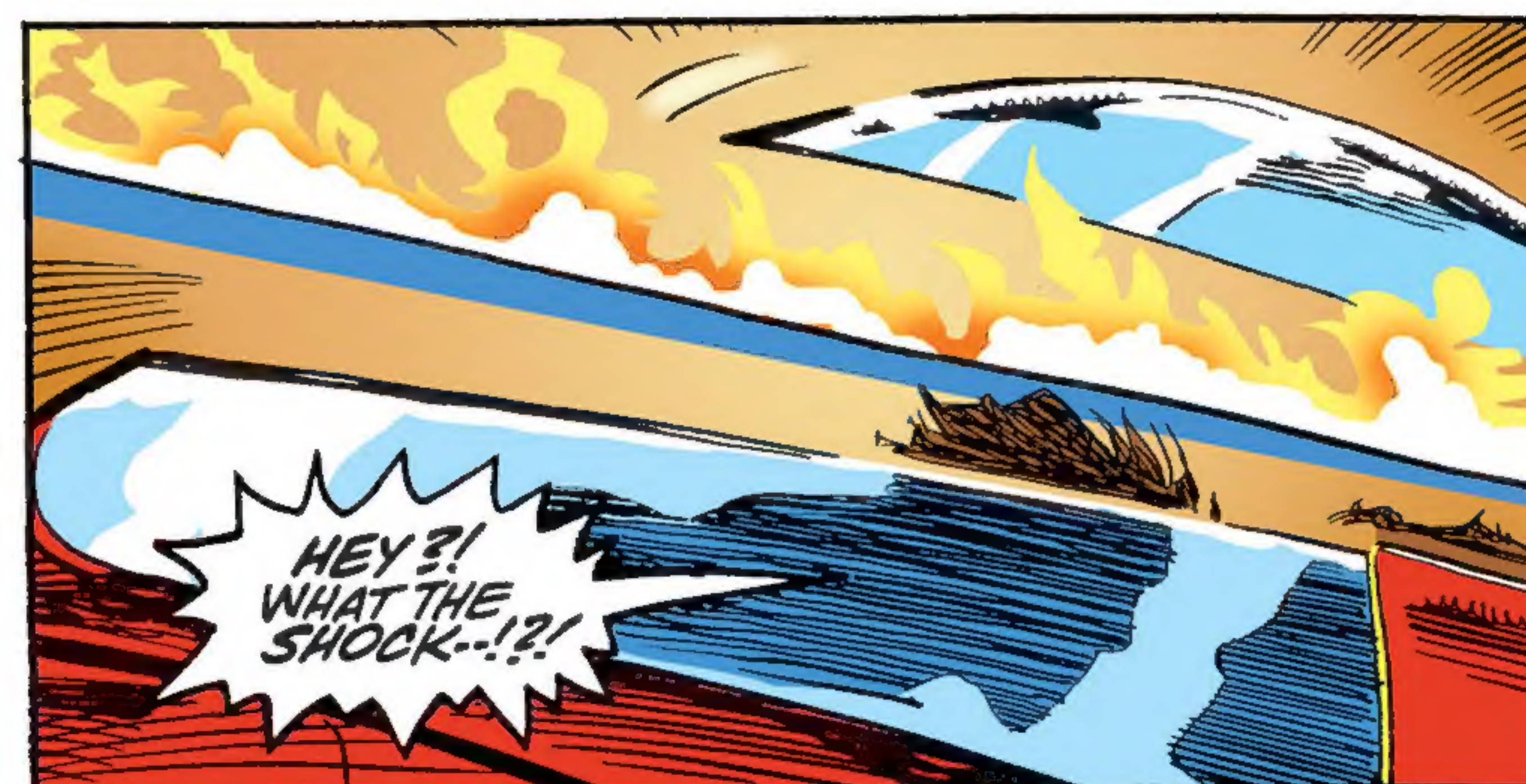
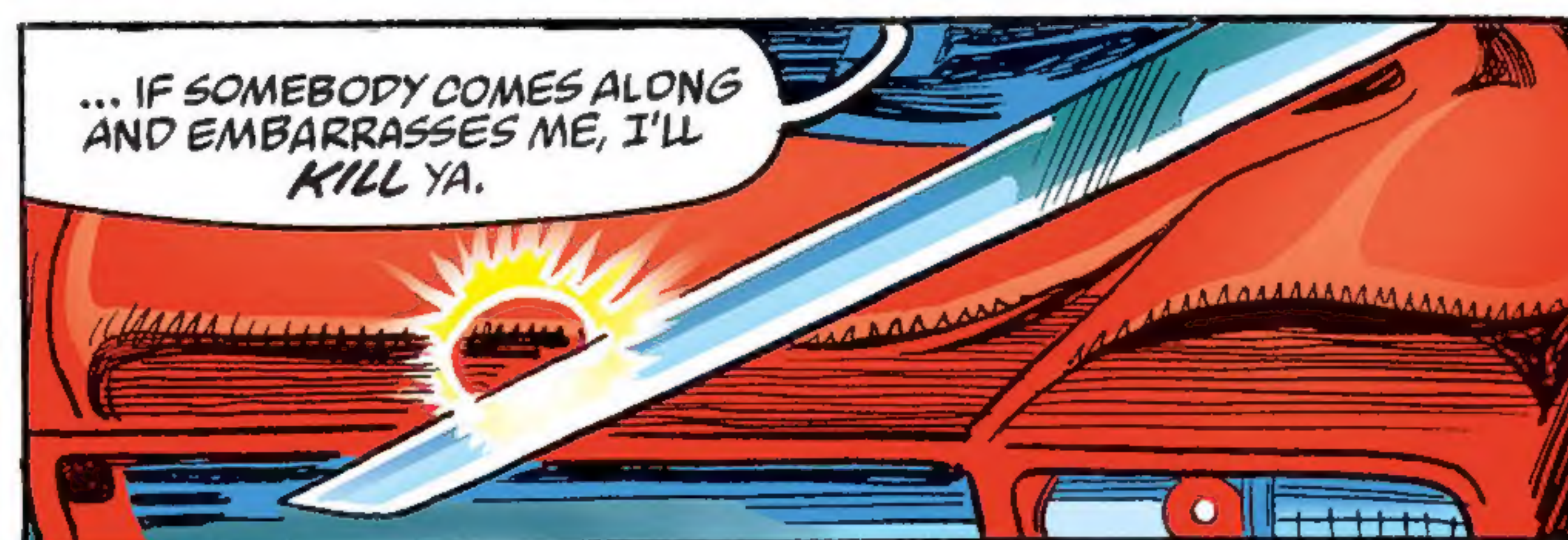
\$1.25 US
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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SPIDER-MAN 2099™

INSOLENT ONE!
YOU CANNOT ESCAPE
THE
SPECIALIST!™

LEONARDI
WILLIAMSON





KASEY NASH...

YOU ARE TO ACCOMPANY THIS ONE, IMMEDIATELY.

LACK OF RESISTANCE WILL DIRECTLY RESULT IN LACK OF PERFORMANCE.

HEY!!



WHO THE SHOCK DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

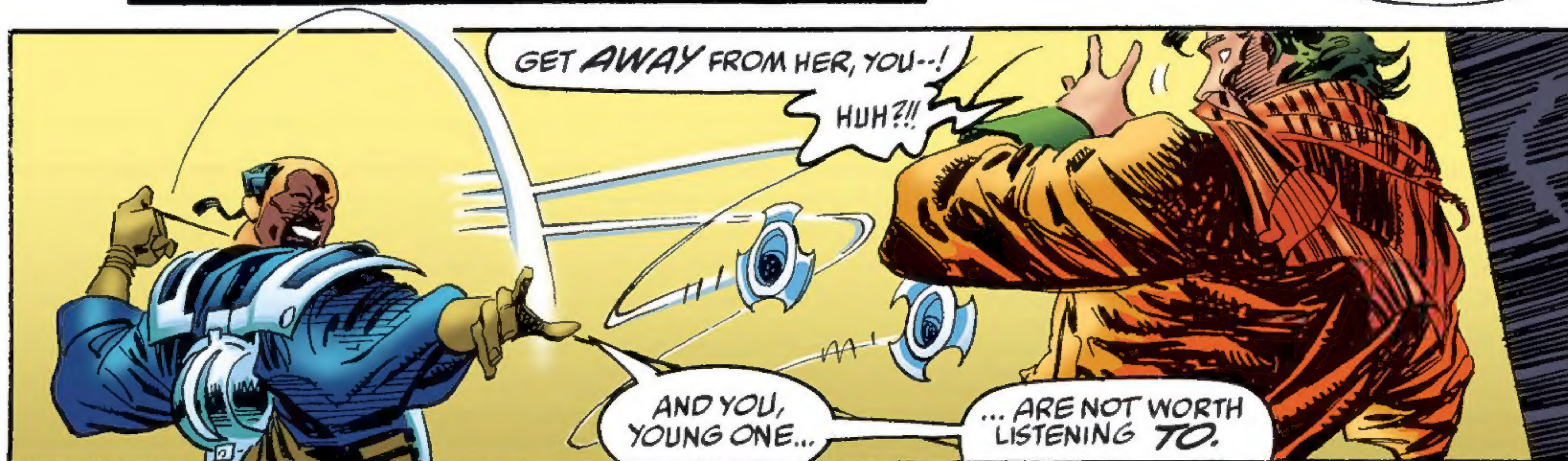
THIS ONE KNOWS WHO "THE SHOCK" HE IS. YOUR IDENTITY IS UNKNOWN, AND IRRELEVANT.

YOUR BEST INTERESTS WOULD BE SERVED IN *KEEPING* IT THAT WAY.



KASEY NASH...

YOU WERE NOT LISTENING.



GET AWAY FROM HER, YOU--!

HUH?!!

AND YOU, YOUNG ONE...

... ARE NOT WORTH LISTENING TO.



THIS ONE HAS FAR BETTER THINGS TO DO.

O'HAAAARRAA!

KASEY! DON'T WORRY! I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THIS!!

OHHHHH, BROTHER!

BABYLON TOWERS, A NICE
PLACE TO LIVE... WHEN YOU'RE
NOT BEING ROUSTED IN THE
MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

ALL RIGHT,
STONE. WHAT
IN THE SHOCK
DO YOU--

WHOOOAAAA!!

THE SPECIAL ALIST

PETER DAVID
WRITER

RICK LEONARDI
PENCILER

AL WILLIAMSON
INKER

JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR

TOM DEFALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

RICK PARKER
LETTERER

NOELLE GIDDINGS
COLORIST

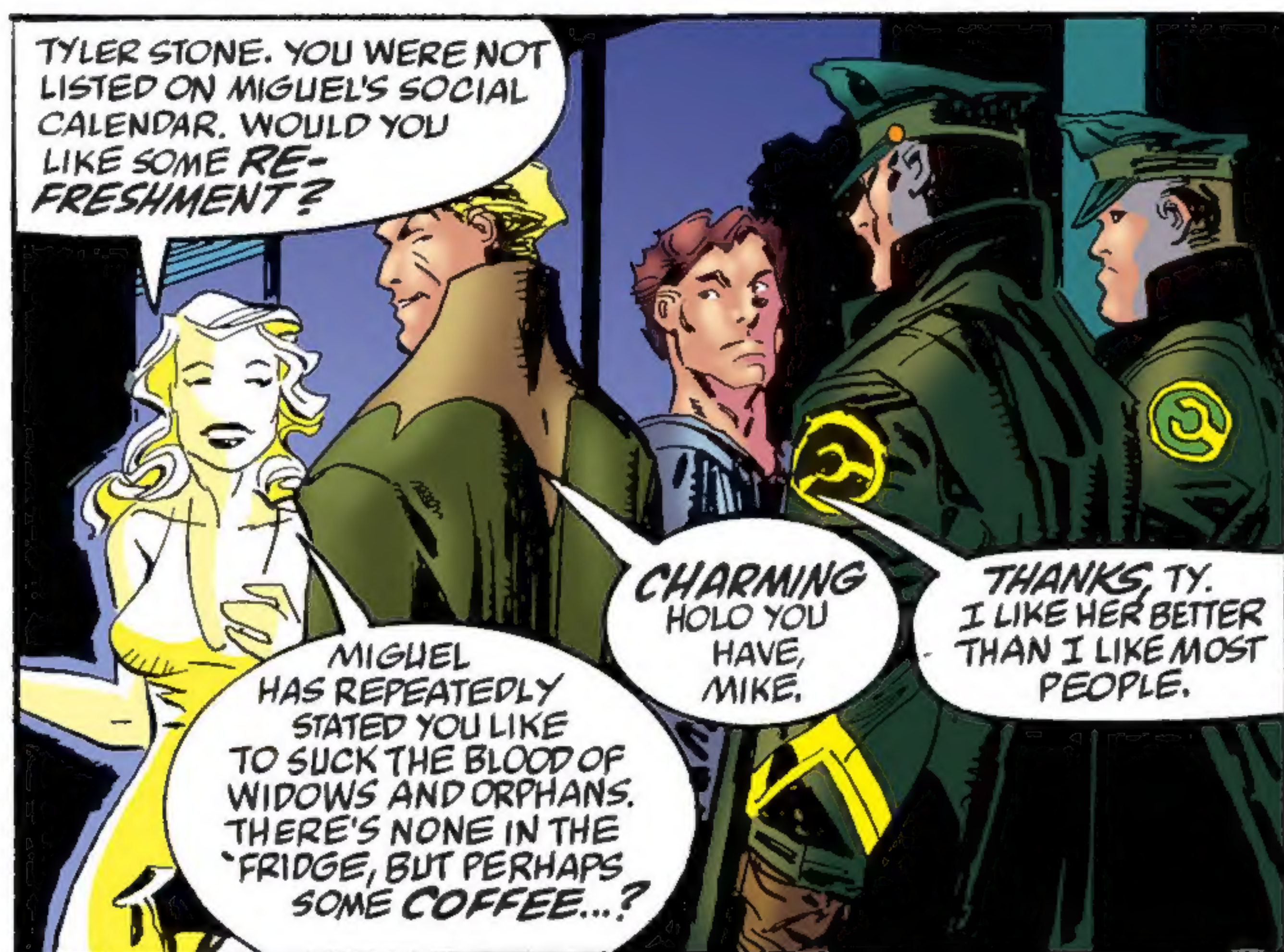


ONLY AN EMPTY ONE, TYLER.

SERGEANT! BEING A TAD OVERZEALOUS, AREN'T WE?

MIKE, HERE IS NO THREAT. ARE YOU, MIKE?

THERE, YOU SEE? PUT HIM DOWN, SERGEANT.



TYLER STONE. YOU WERE NOT LISTED ON MIGUEL'S SOCIAL CALENDAR. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME RE-FRESHMENT?

MIGUEL HAS REPEATEDLY STATED YOU LIKE TO SUCK THE BLOOD OF WIDOWS AND ORPHANS. THERE'S NONE IN THE 'FRIDGE, BUT PERHAPS SOME COFFEE...?

CHARMING HOLO YOU HAVE, MIKE.

THANKS, TY. I LIKE HER BETTER THAN I LIKE MOST PEOPLE.



PRESENT COMPANY INCLUDED, OF COURSE.

OH, MIKE. HOW CAN YOU NURSE A GRUDGE?

I HAVE TOUGH NIPPLES.



SERGEANT SETH, HERE IS ON A BIT OF A HAIR-TRIGGER, MIKE. WE ALL ARE.

THIS "SPIDER-MAN" FELLOW HAS US ON EDGE. AND THE BOARD FELT THAT I SHOULDN'T TRAVEL ANYWHERE WITHOUT BODYGUARDS. THEY'RE WORRIED SPIDER-MAN MIGHT COME AFTER ME NEXT. IN FACT, THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.



LET'S LET BYGONES BE BYGONES.

SETH, SHAKE THE MAN'S HAND.

SHAKE HIS...?



HE CAN KEEP HIS HAND. WHAT DO YOU WANT?

PEACE. PEACE BETWEEN *US*... AND, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, PEACE OF *MIND*. I ENVISIONED YOU IN ATTEMPTED WITHDRAWAL FROM THE RAPTURE, TOSSING AND TURNING IN AGONY. THE THOUGHT WAS *SO* DEVASTATING TO ME, I *HAD* TO COME OVER.

OF COURSE, IT SEEMS TO ME NOW THAT YOU APPEAR NONE THE *WORSE* FOR WEAR...WHICH WOULD MEAN, I SUSPECT, THAT YOU'RE GETTING RAPTURE THROUGH THE BLACK MARKET.

I *COULD* HAVE YOU ARRESTED. BUT TO WHAT *END*?

THIS, MIKE, IS *MORE* RAPTURE. AND WE *DO* WANT YOU BACK AT THE COMPANY, MIKE. WE *DO*.

SPIDER-MAN DEALT US SOME *MAJOR* DAMAGE. WE NEED SOMEONE TO SPEARHEAD THE CORPORATE RAIDER PROGRAM. ONLY *YOU* CAN DO IT.

SO LET'S CONSIDER THIS... AN ADVANCE ON *SERVICES* TO BE RENDERED?

YOU WANT *SERVICES*, TY?

GREAT! WE'LL START WITH FUNERAL SERVICES! *YOURS!*

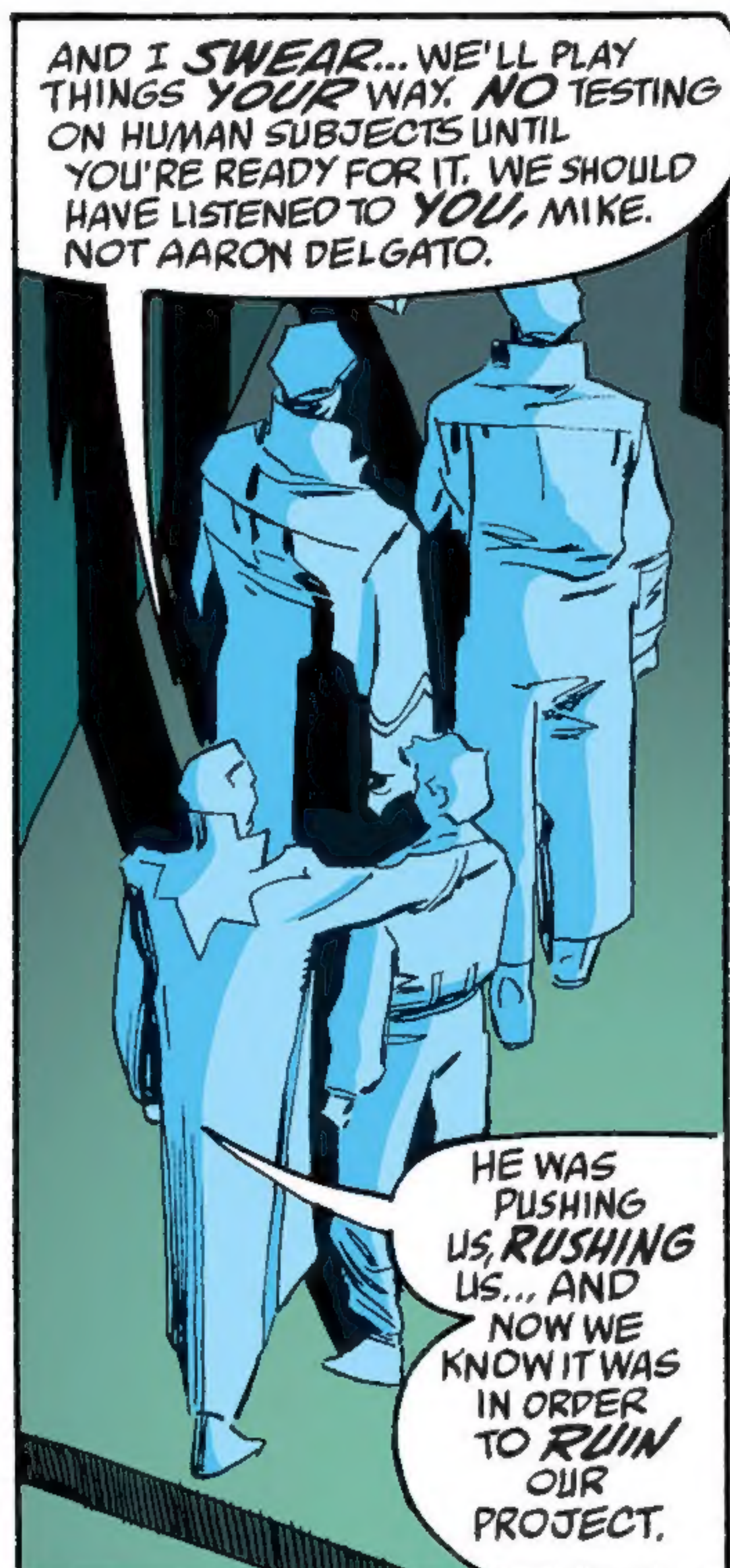
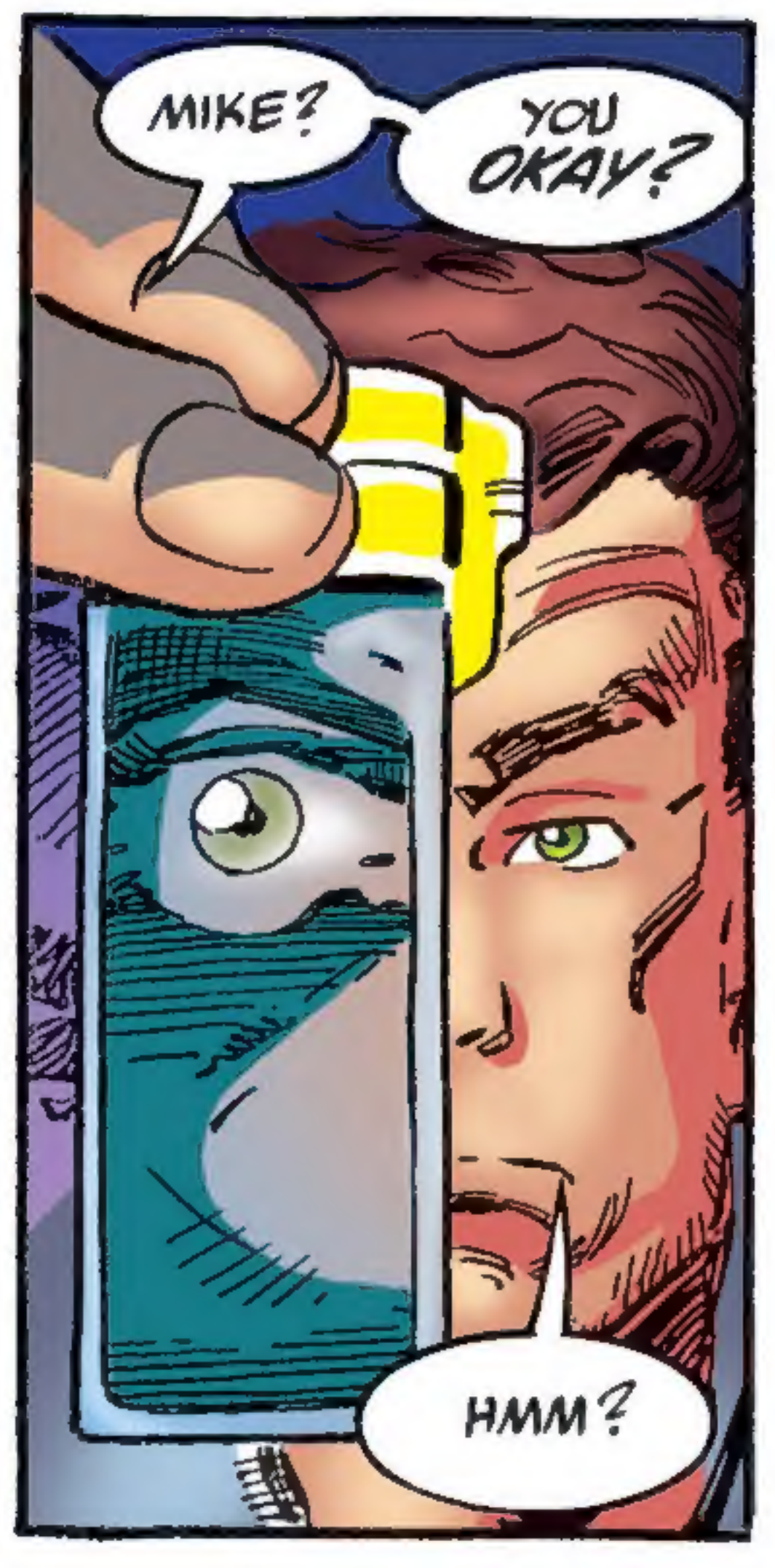
YOU'RE SO WILD ABOUT THIS DRUG?! YOU *EAT* IT!!

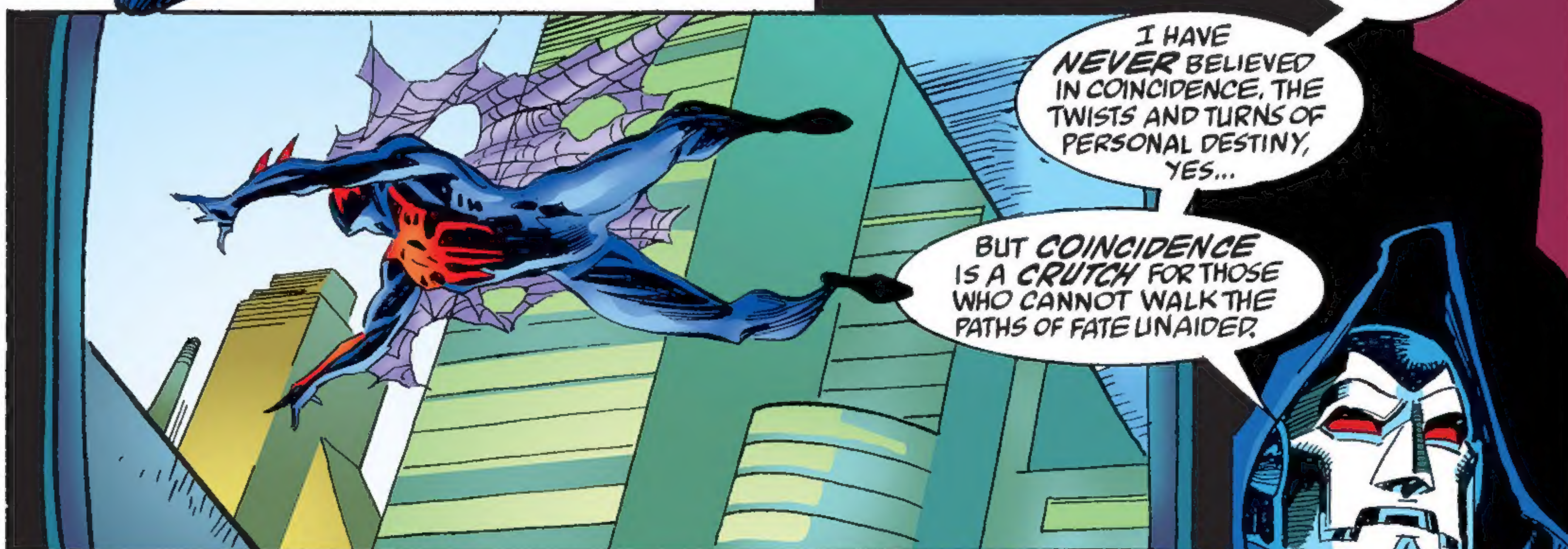
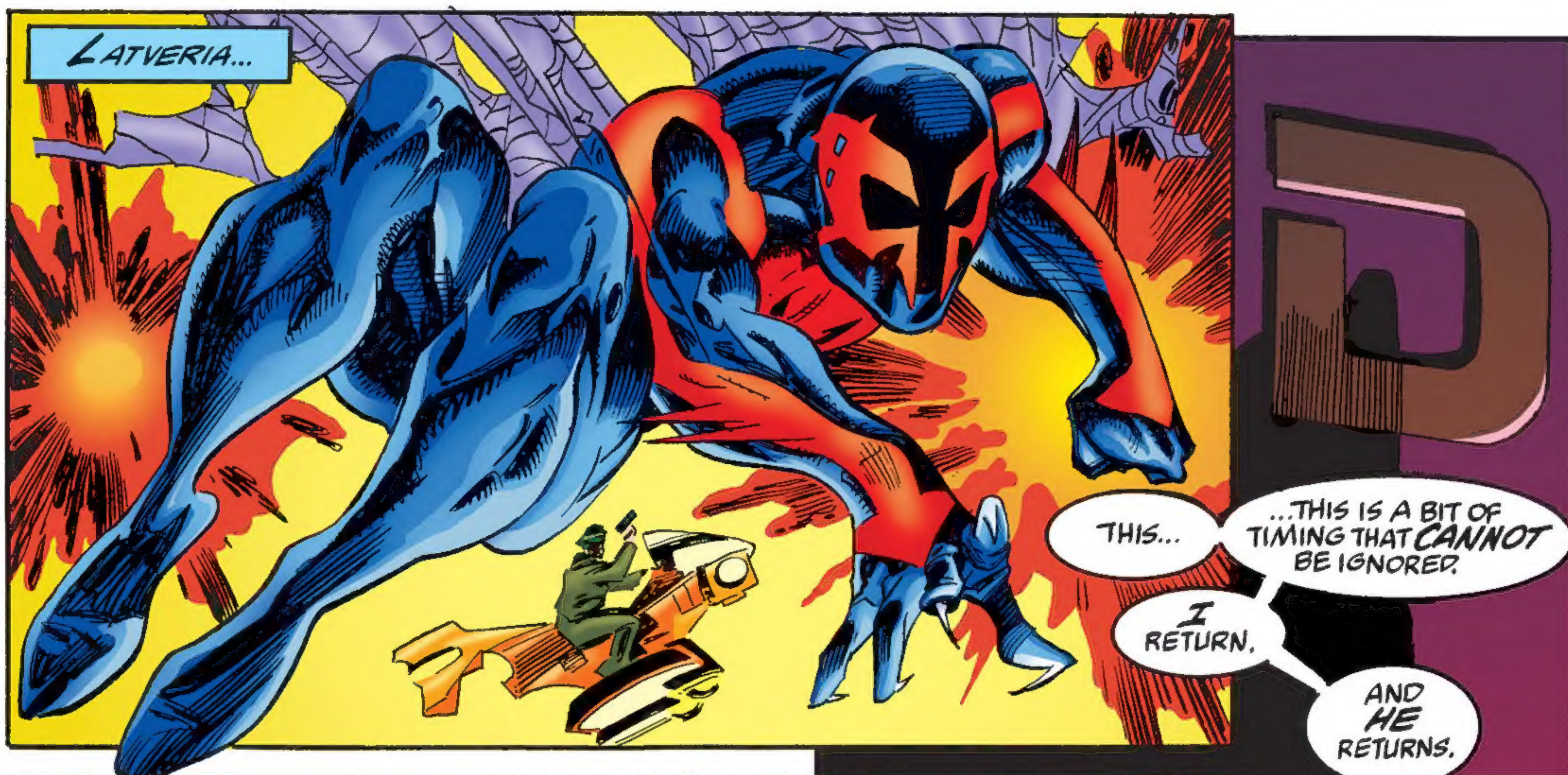
GHAAK!!

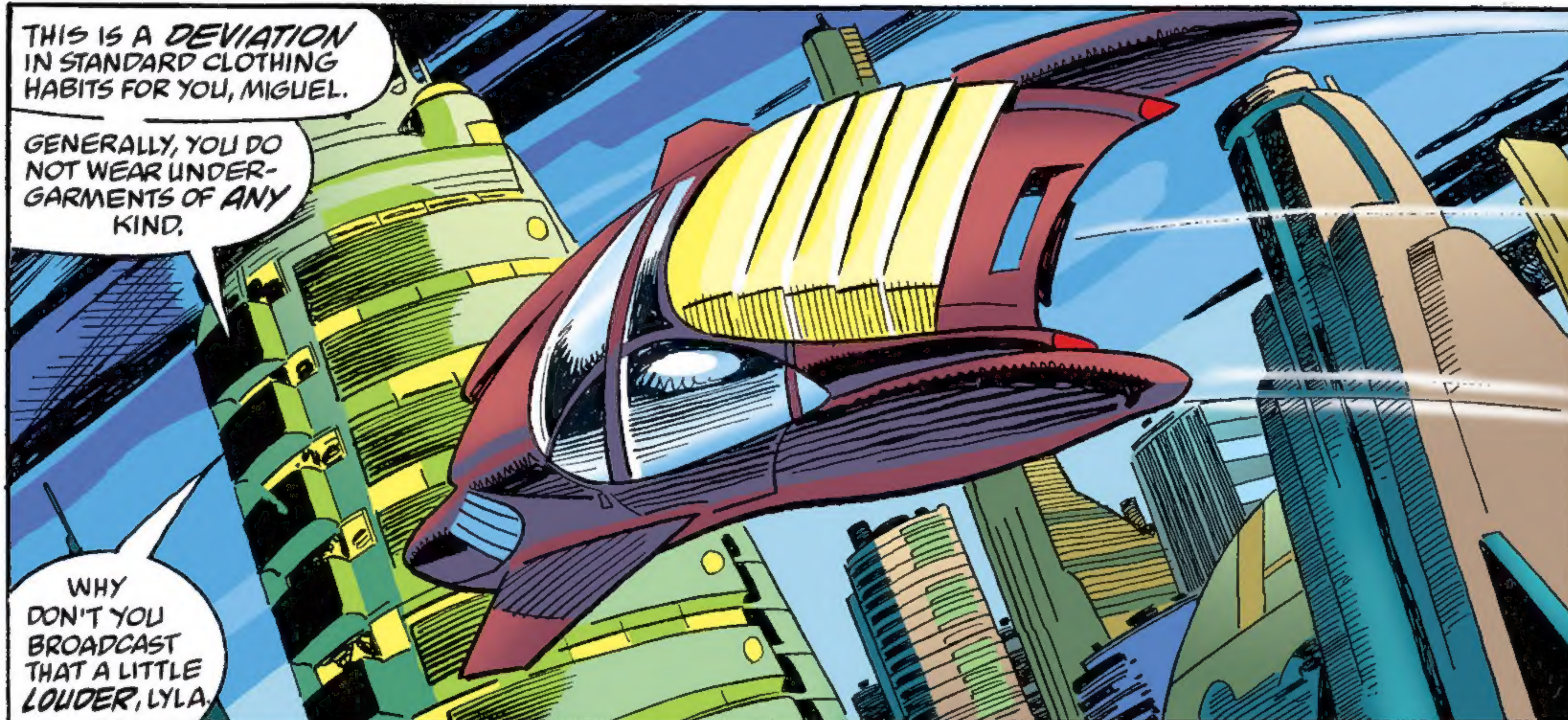
LOOK WHAT TRYING TO SHAKE IT DID FOR ME, TY! FANGS! TALONS!

ONE SIDE, PUBLIC EYE-SORE! I WANT TO SEE TY'S PASTY FACE WHEN I TELL HIM...

MIGUEL O'HARA IS SPIDER-MAN!!



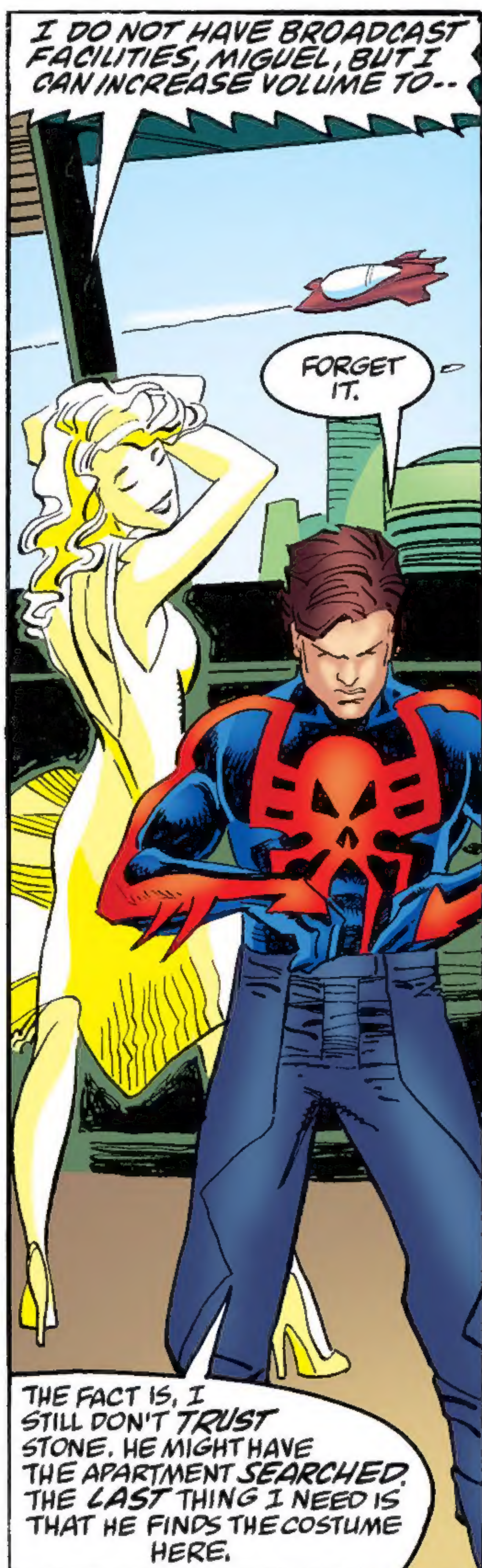




THIS IS A *DEVIATION* IN STANDARD CLOTHING HABITS FOR YOU, MIGUEL.

GENERALLY, YOU DO NOT WEAR UNDER-GARMENTS OF ANY KIND.

WHY DON'T YOU BROADCAST THAT A LITTLE LOUDER, LYLA.



I DO NOT HAVE BROADCAST FACILITIES, MIGUEL, BUT I CAN INCREASE VOLUME TO--

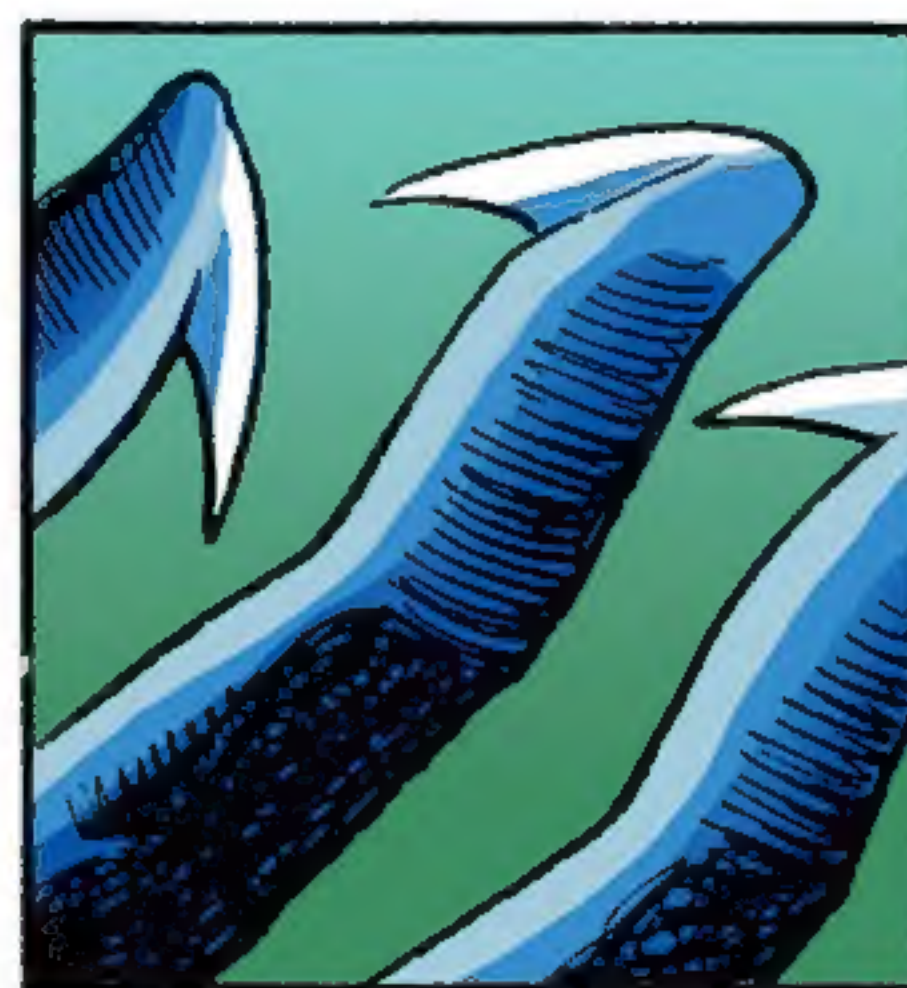
FORGET IT.

THE FACT IS, I STILL DON'T *TRUST* STONE. HE MIGHT HAVE THE APARTMENT SEARCHED. THE *LAST* THING I NEED IS THAT HE FINDS THE COSTUME HERE.



BUT HE'S TOO CAGEY TO BODY-SEARCH *ME*. WOULDN'T WANT TO TIP HIS HAND IF THE STUFF ABOUT AARON WAS A BLUFF, AND IF HE *DOES* TRY TO SEARCH ME, WELL...IF PUSH COMES TO SHOVE...

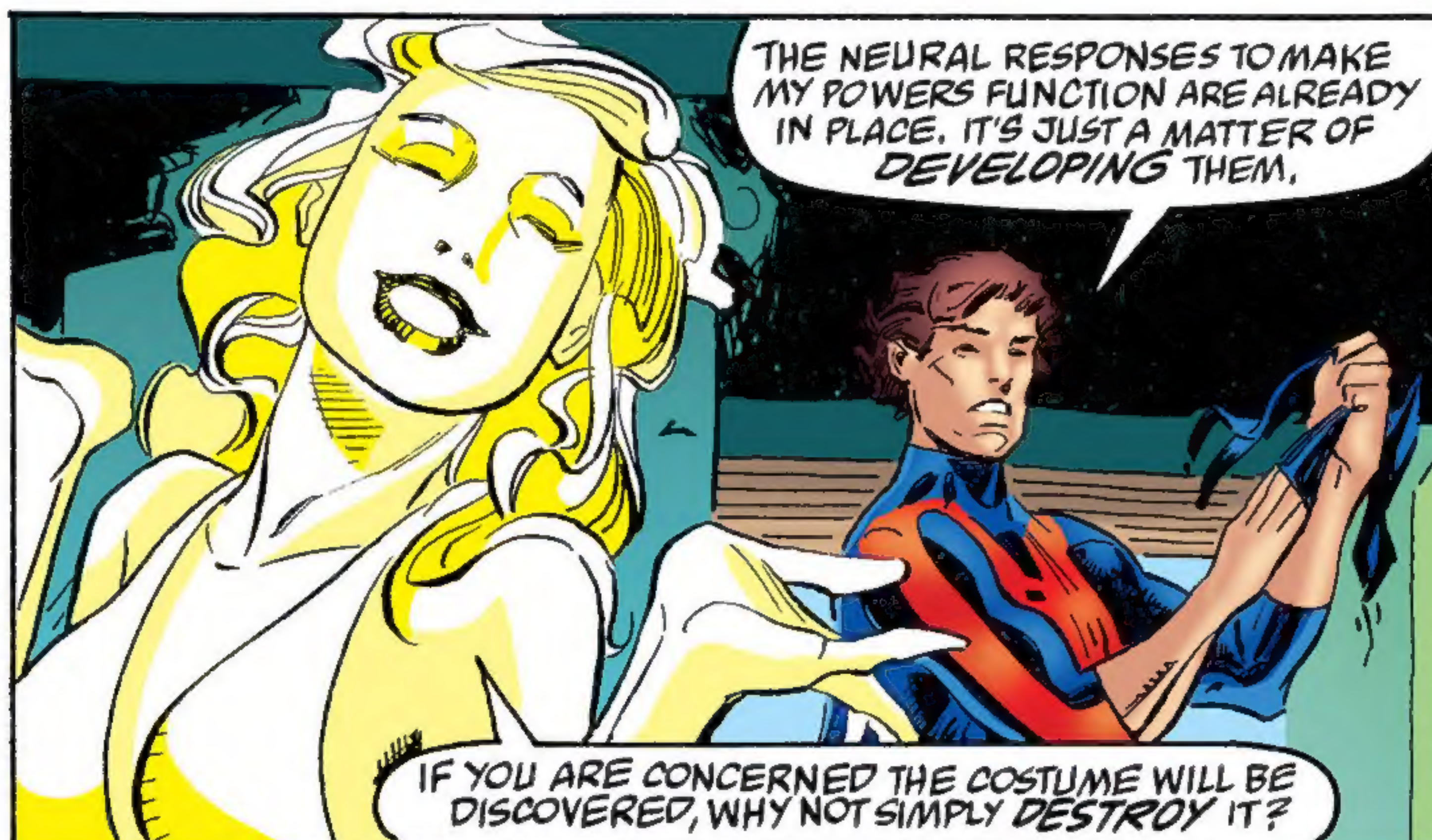
I CAN REALLY SHOVE BACK NOW.



UHHHH...



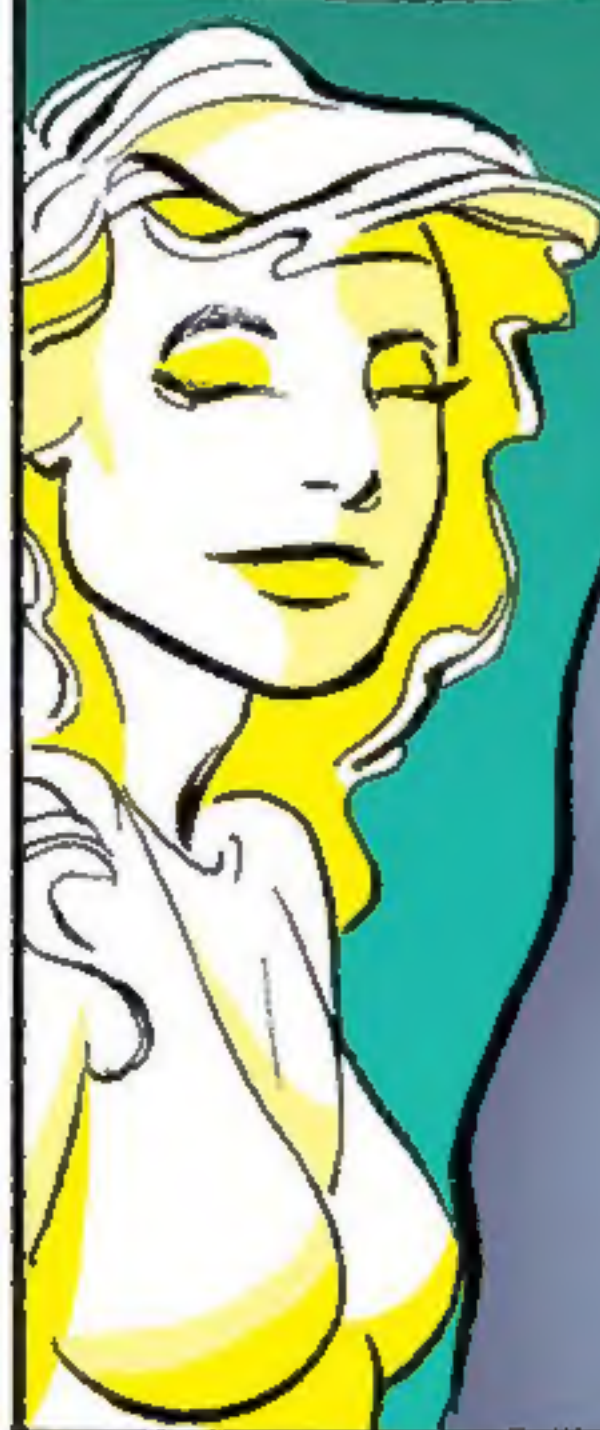
DID IT! I FLATTENED THE TALONS!



THE NEURAL RESPONSES TO MAKE MY POWERS FUNCTION ARE ALREADY IN PLACE. IT'S JUST A MATTER OF *DEVELOPING* THEM.

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED THE COSTUME WILL BE DISCOVERED, WHY NOT SIMPLY *DESTROY* IT?

FIRST OFF, DESTROYING CLOTHES MADE FROM UNSTABLE MOLECULES ISN'T THAT EASY. THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT OF THEM.



SECOND, YOU SAW HOW JUMPY OL' TY WAS ABOUT THE SPIDER-MAN.

FOR ONCE--FOR ONCE--TY AND ALCHEMAX ARE RUNNING SCARED. THE S-MAN IS THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR YANKING THEIR CHAIN, AND I'M NOT READY TO PUT AN END TO THAT.

AS LONG AS THEY'RE LOOKING OVER THEIR SHOULDERS THEY'LL BE DISTRACTED FROM WHAT I'M UP TO.



UP TO?

TY WANTS ME BACK ON THE CORPORATE RAIDER PROGRAM. FINE.

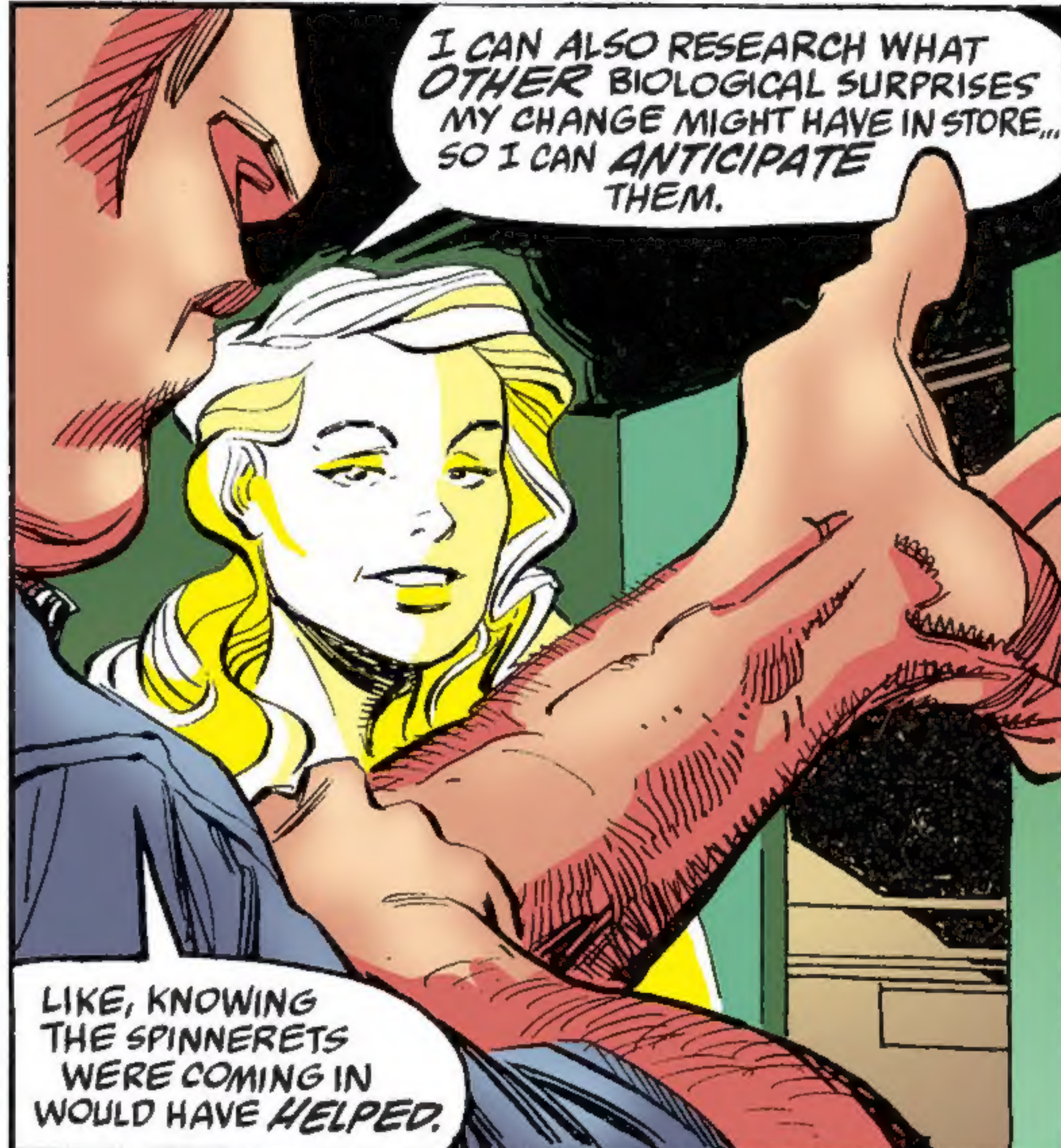
EVEN THOUGH THE LAB WAS BLOWN UP, THEY STILL HAVE PLENTY OF GREAT RESEARCH FACILITIES. FACILITIES I CAN USE TO TRY AND FIND A CURE FOR MY...



...SITUATION.

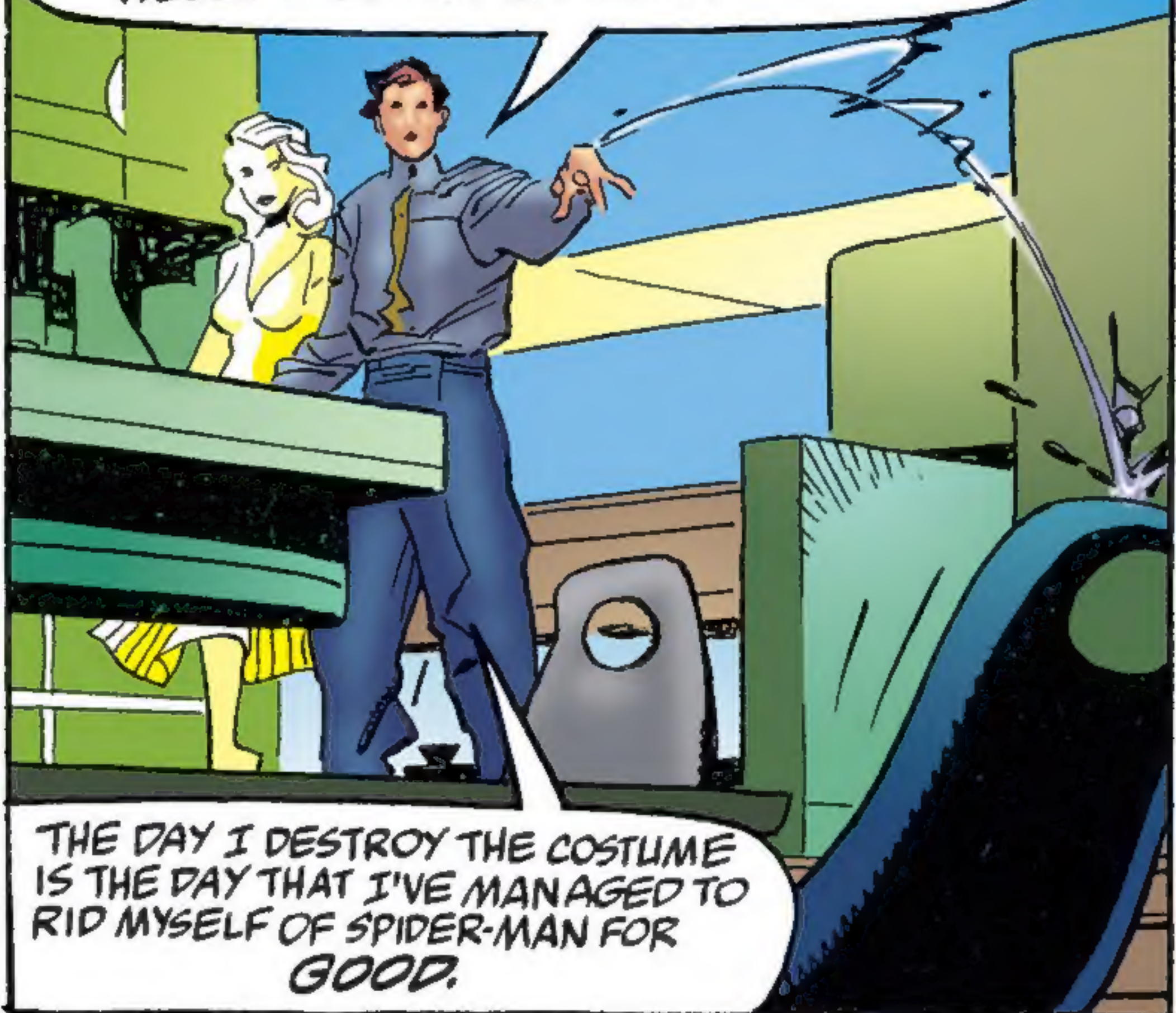


I CAN ALSO RESEARCH WHAT OTHER BIOLOGICAL SURPRISES MY CHANGE MIGHT HAVE IN STORE... SO I CAN ANTICIPATE THEM.



LIKE, KNOWING THE SPINNERETS WERE COMING IN WOULD HAVE HELPED.

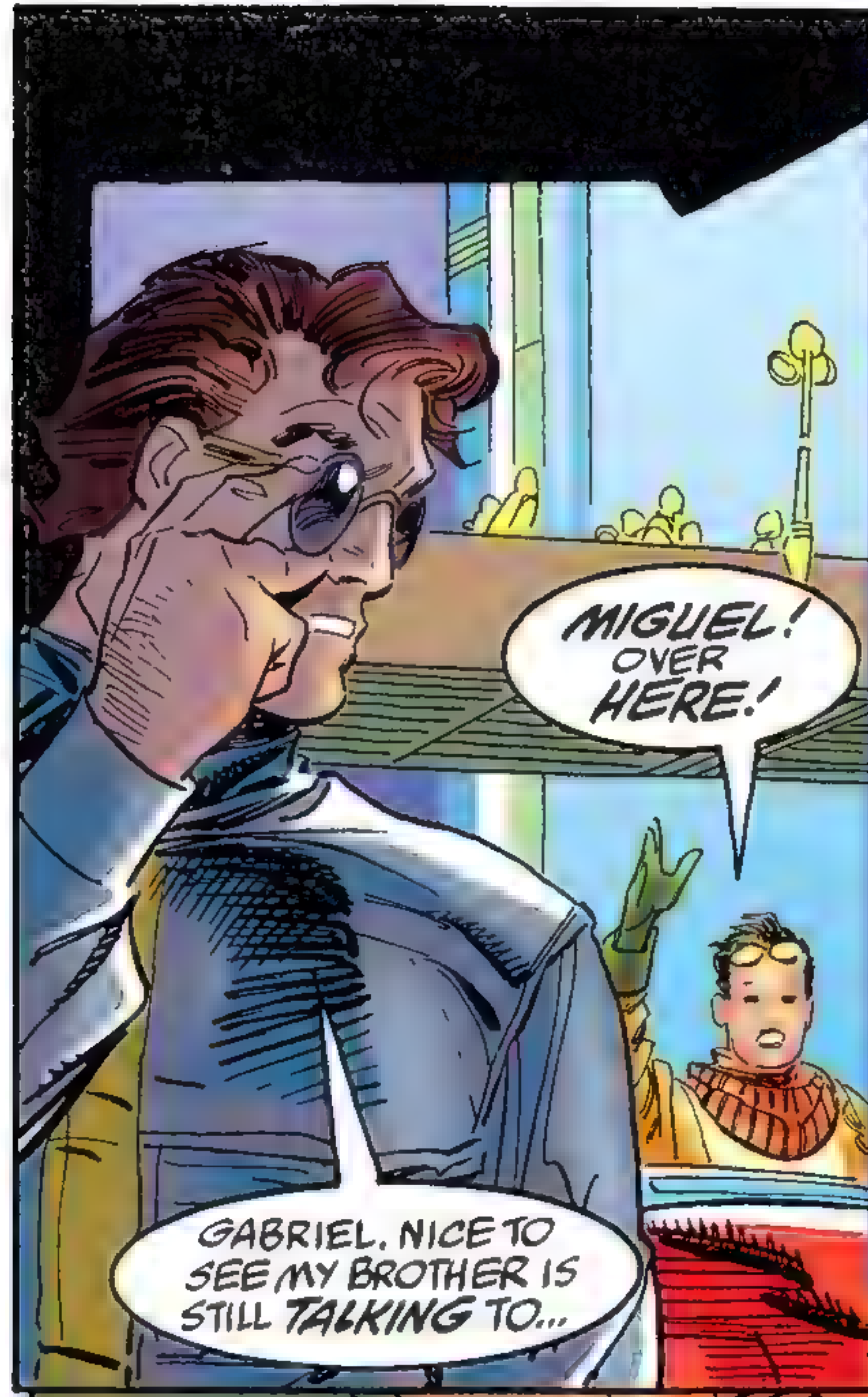
AT LEAST THEY STOPPED ITCHING. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL. IF I WERE DUPLICATING A SPIDER 100%, I'D BE EATING FLIES AND SHOOTING WEBBING OUT MY BUTTOCKS.



THE DAY I DESTROY THE COSTUME IS THE DAY THAT I'VE MANAGED TO RID MYSELF OF SPIDER-MAN FOR GOOD.

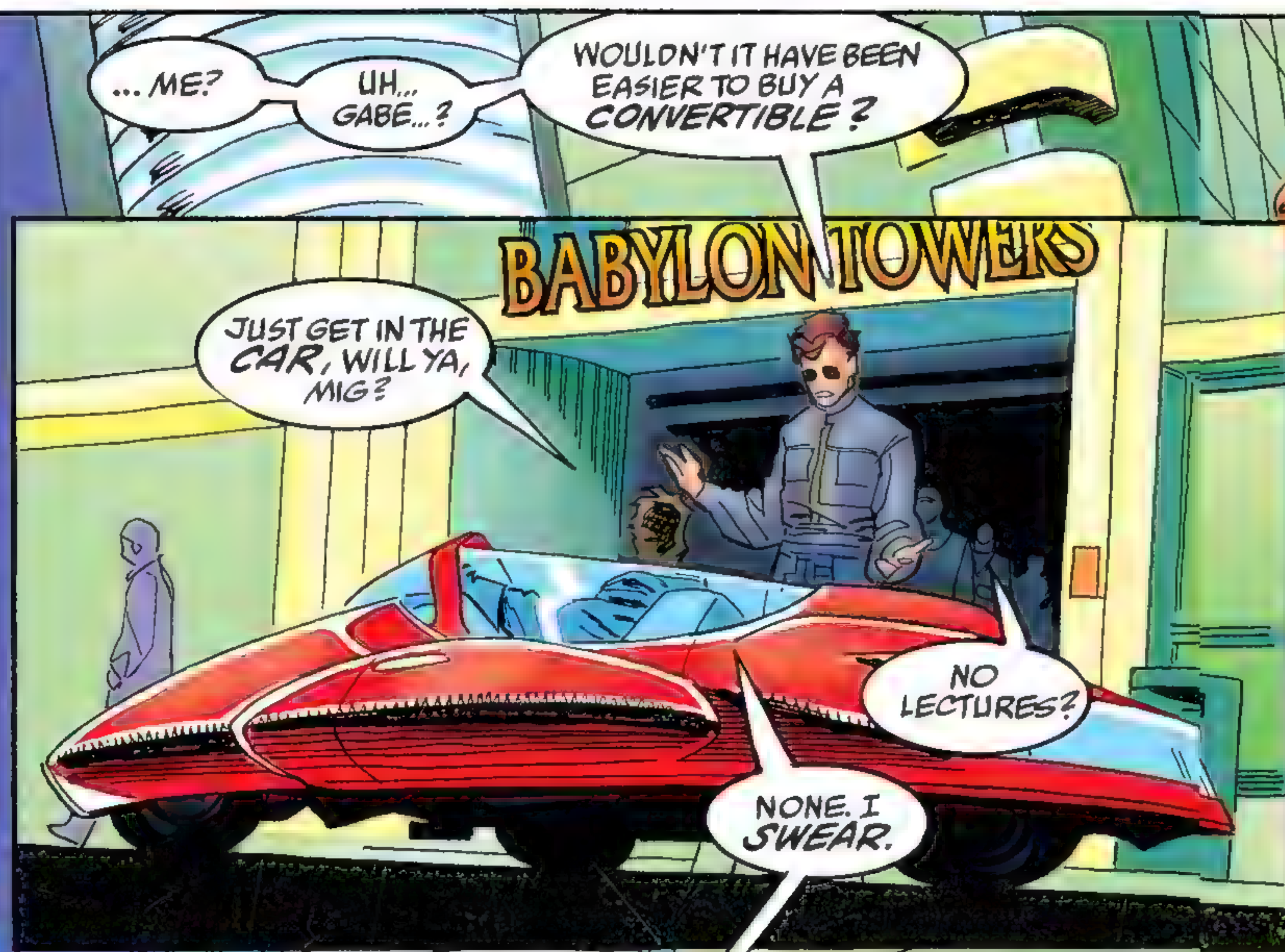
HAVE A NICE DAY AT THE OFFICE, DEAR!





GABRIEL, NICE TO SEE MY BROTHER IS STILL TALKING TO...

MIGUEL!
OVER
HERE!



JUST GET IN THE
CAR, WILL YA,
MIG?

WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN
EASIER TO BUY A
CONVERTIBLE?

... ME?
UH...
GABE...?

NO
LECTURES?

NONE, I
SWEAR.

LOOK, THERE'S A
PROBLEM WITH KASEY.
THAT'S HOW MY CAR GOT
"REDECORATED."

IS THIS HOLO ON THE
DASHBOARD HER?

YEAH.

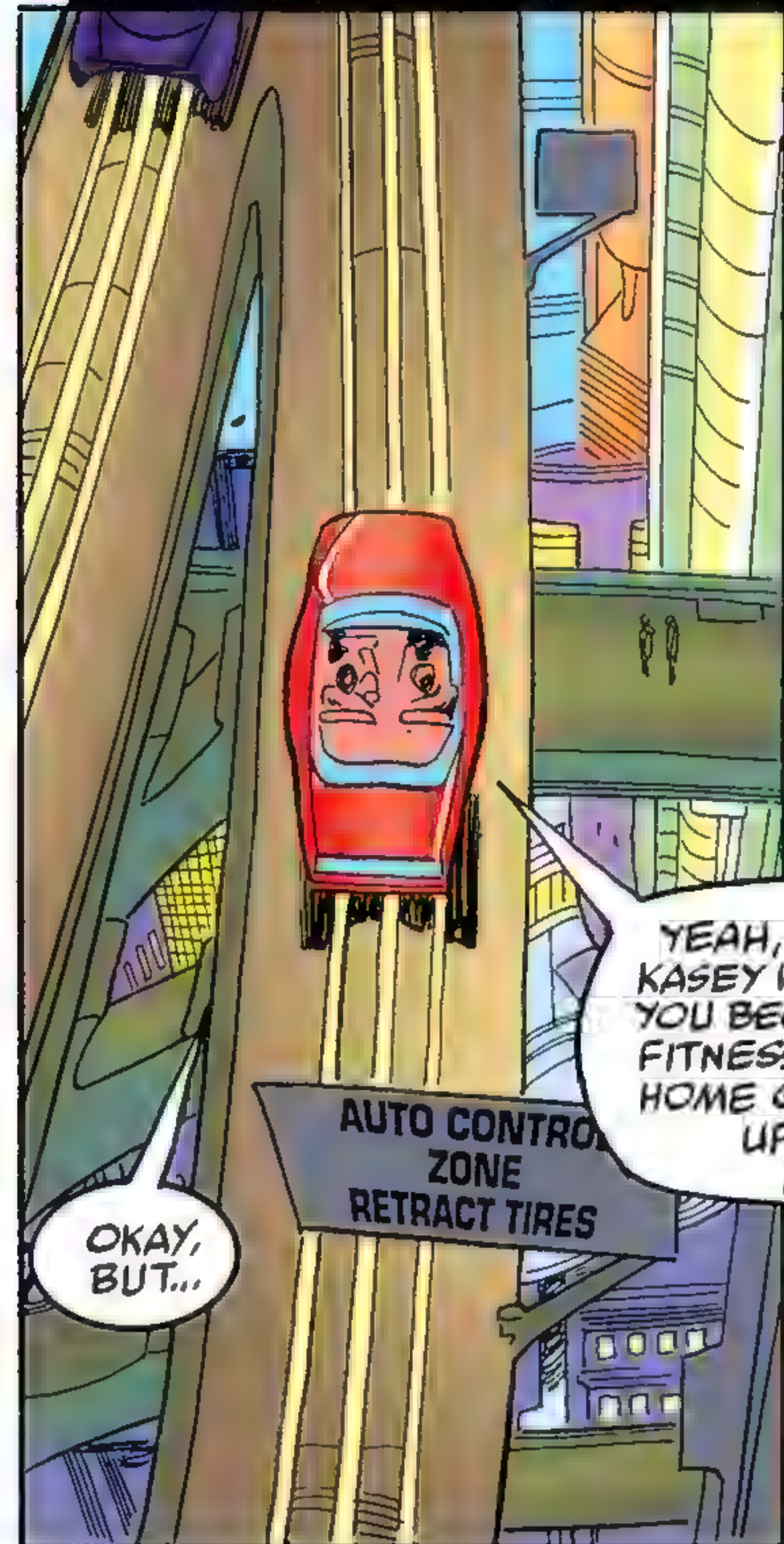


BEFORE THAT THERE WAS
MICHELLE, AND YOU WERE
TELLING ME THAT SOCIETY'S
SOLE HOPE WAS TO DITCH
TECHNOLOGY, WORSHIP
TREES, AND EAT ONLY
OATMEAL.

THEN THERE WAS STACY THE
NUDIST, AND I HAD TO GET YOU
OFF THE HOOK WITH THE AUTHORITIES
AFTER YOU MARCHED WITH...

FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD, I
WAS A KID THEN!

THIS ALL
HAPPENED
LAST YEAR,
GABE.



OKAY,
BUT...

AUTO CONTROL
ZONE
RETRACT TIRES

YEAH, RIGHT, AND BEFORE
KASEY IT WAS LEILANI, AND
YOU BECAME A PHYSICAL
FITNESS NUT. YOU BOUGHT A
HOME GYM SET THAT TOOK
UP YOUR ENTIRE
APARTMENT.

SO THAT'S THE
CHARMER YOU KEEP
GOING ON ABOUT. THE
ONE WHO "RAISED YOUR
CONSCIOUSNESS,"

STOP SOUNDING SO
SMUG, MIG. SHE OPENED
MY EYES ABOUT WHAT'S
GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY,
THAT'S ALL. THE SAME WAY
MY "LECTURES" WERE
TRYING TO OPEN
YOURS.

MIG, EVERYTHING
THAT KASEY MADE ME
REALIZE IS TRUE, AND
SHE'S IMPORTANT TO
ME! AND SHE'S IMPORTANT
TO SOMEONE ELSE, TOO,
BECAUSE SOME NUT WITH
A SWORD KIDNAPPED
HER!

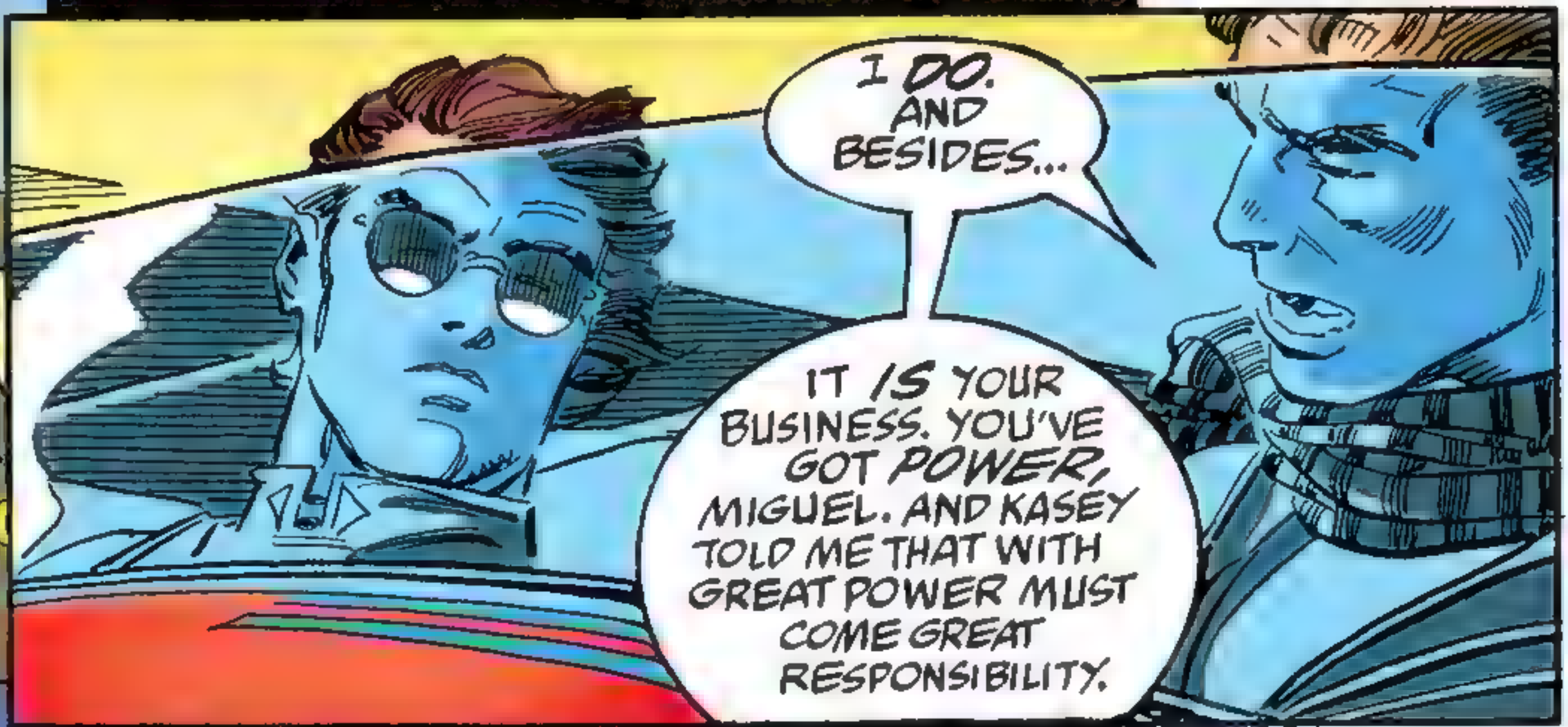
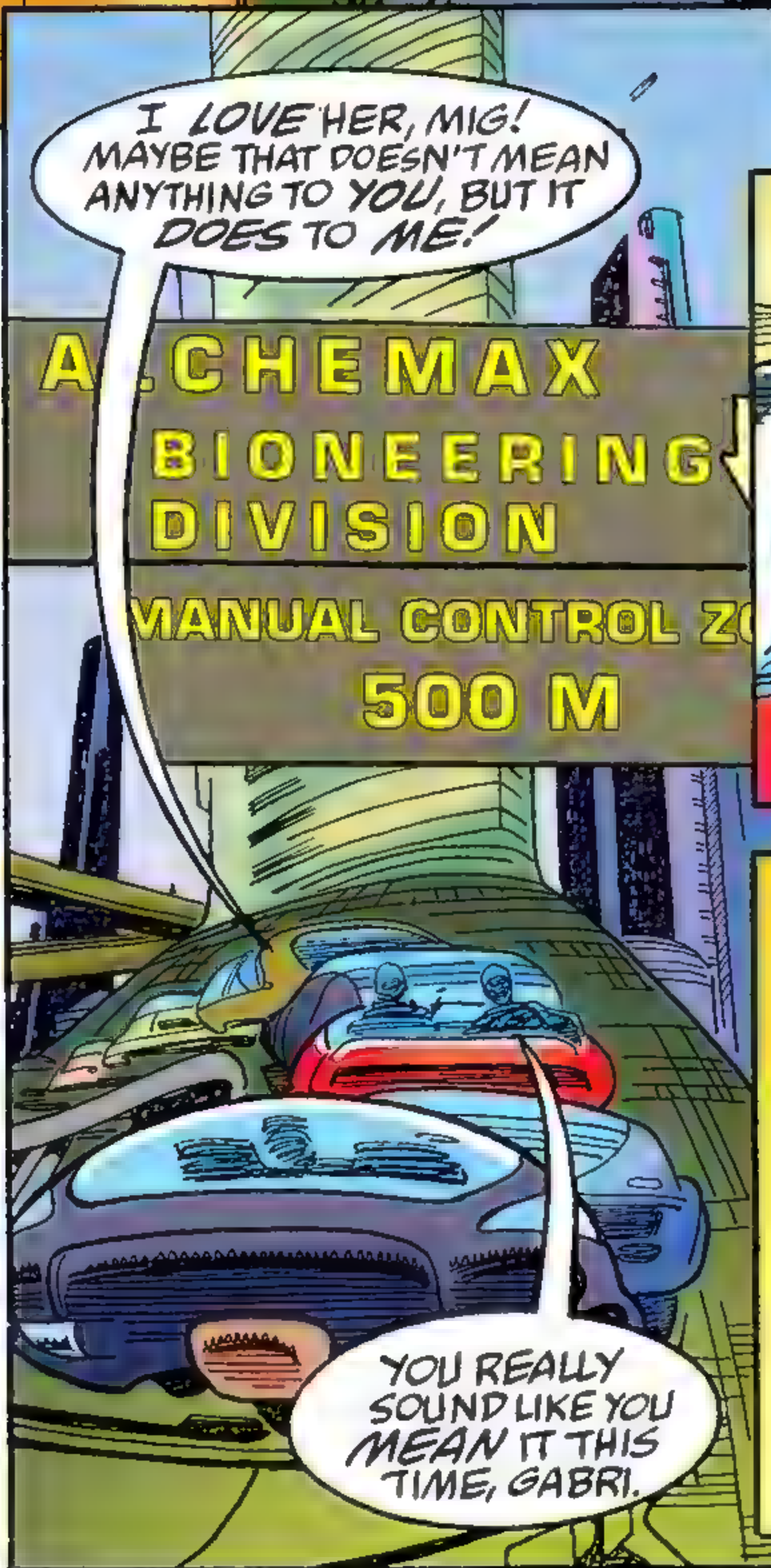
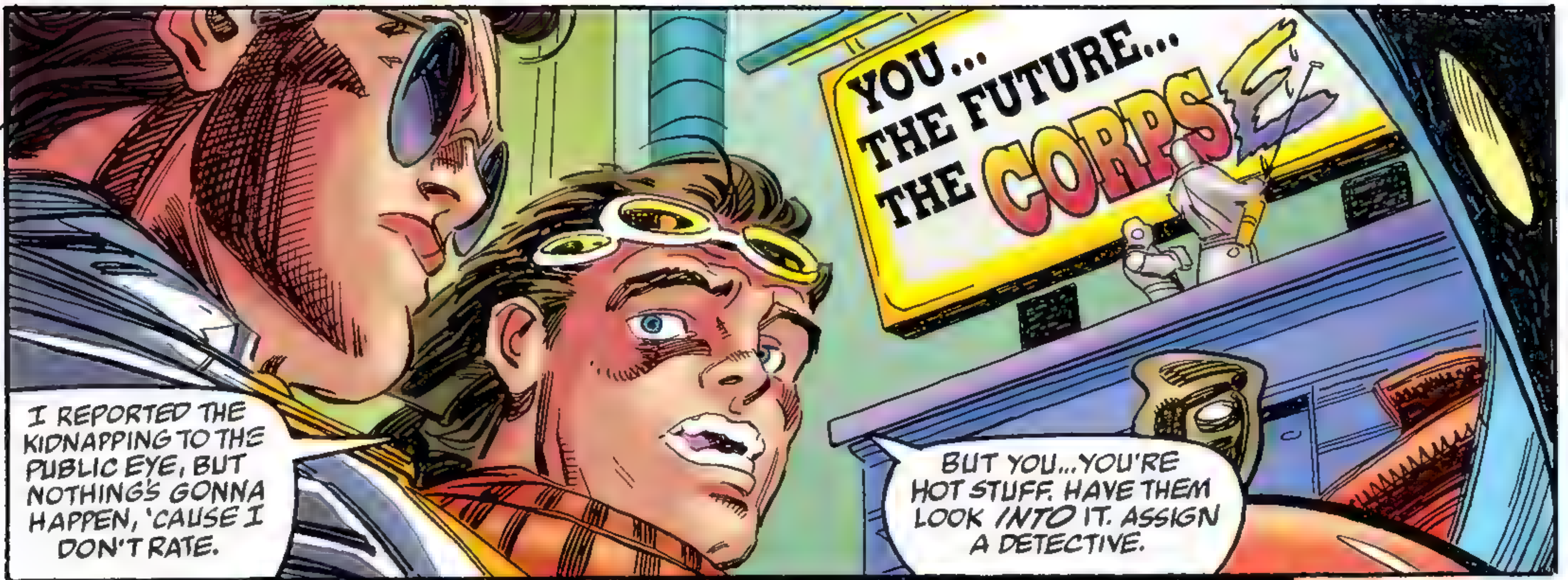
COME
AGAIN?

KASEY AND I WERE
MAKING OUT IN AN ALLEYWAY,
AND THIS... THIS SAMURAI
GUY COMES OUT OF NOWHERE,
WHACKS THE TOP OFF MY MAG
CAR, AND TAKES OFF WITH
HER.

YOU GOTTA
HELP ME,
MIKE.

ME?
WHY?!

'CAUSE YOU'RE
TIED IN WITH
ALCHEMAX.
SO MAKE IT WORK
POSITIVELY
FOR ONCE.



YOU SEE, MIKE? WE'VE
SCALED THE ENTIRE PROJECT
BACK. YOU WEREN'T HAPPY,
AND IF YOU'RE NOT HAPPY,
WE'RE NOT HAPPY.

BY THE WAY, MIKE, WHY DID YOU ASK
THAT THE LIGHTS BE LOWERED? YOU
NEVER HAD A PROBLEM WITH THAT
BEFORE.

RAPTURE'S
MADE ME A
LITTLE LIGHT
SENSITIVE,
THAT'S ALL.

SPIDER-MAN.

LET ME TELL MY
SECRETARY TO CANCEL
MY 10 O'CLOCK APPOINT-
MENT, AND THEN WE CAN
GO UP TO MY OFFICE AND
CHAT.

WHAT I
WANT TO
KNOW IS,
WHAT
MAKES YOU
SAY AARON
IS THIS...
WHAT'S HIS
NAME?

ELSEWHERE IN
ALCHEMAX...

IF I'M BEING ARRESTED, I
DEMAND PROPER TRIAL! YOU
CAN'T JUST SCARF ME AWAY
AND DO WHATEVER YOU--

YOU HAD YOUR TRIAL.
IT WAS THREE MONTHS AGO,
AND YOU WERE IN ABSENTIA,
I FEAR.

MISS NASH, IN
ADDITION TO
THE OTHER
CRIMES OF
TERRORISM
YOU'RE
ASSOCIATED
WITH, YOU
HAVE BEEN
QUOTED AS
SAYING "THE
CORPS DO
WHATEVER
THE SHOCK
THEY
WANT."

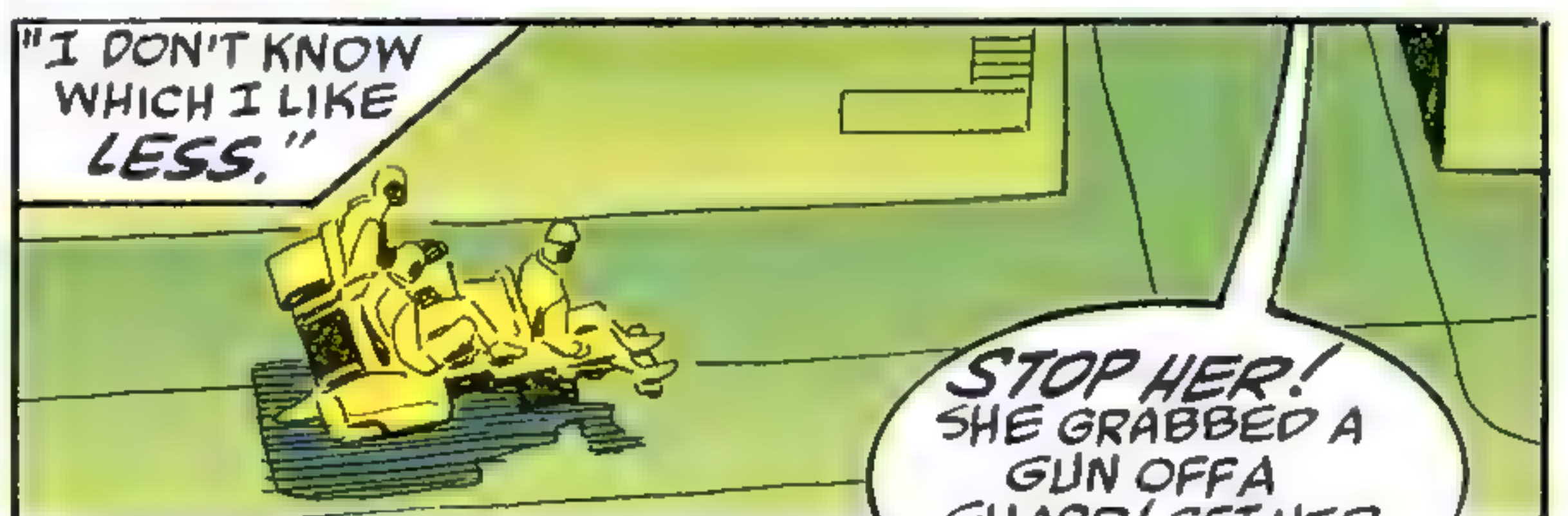
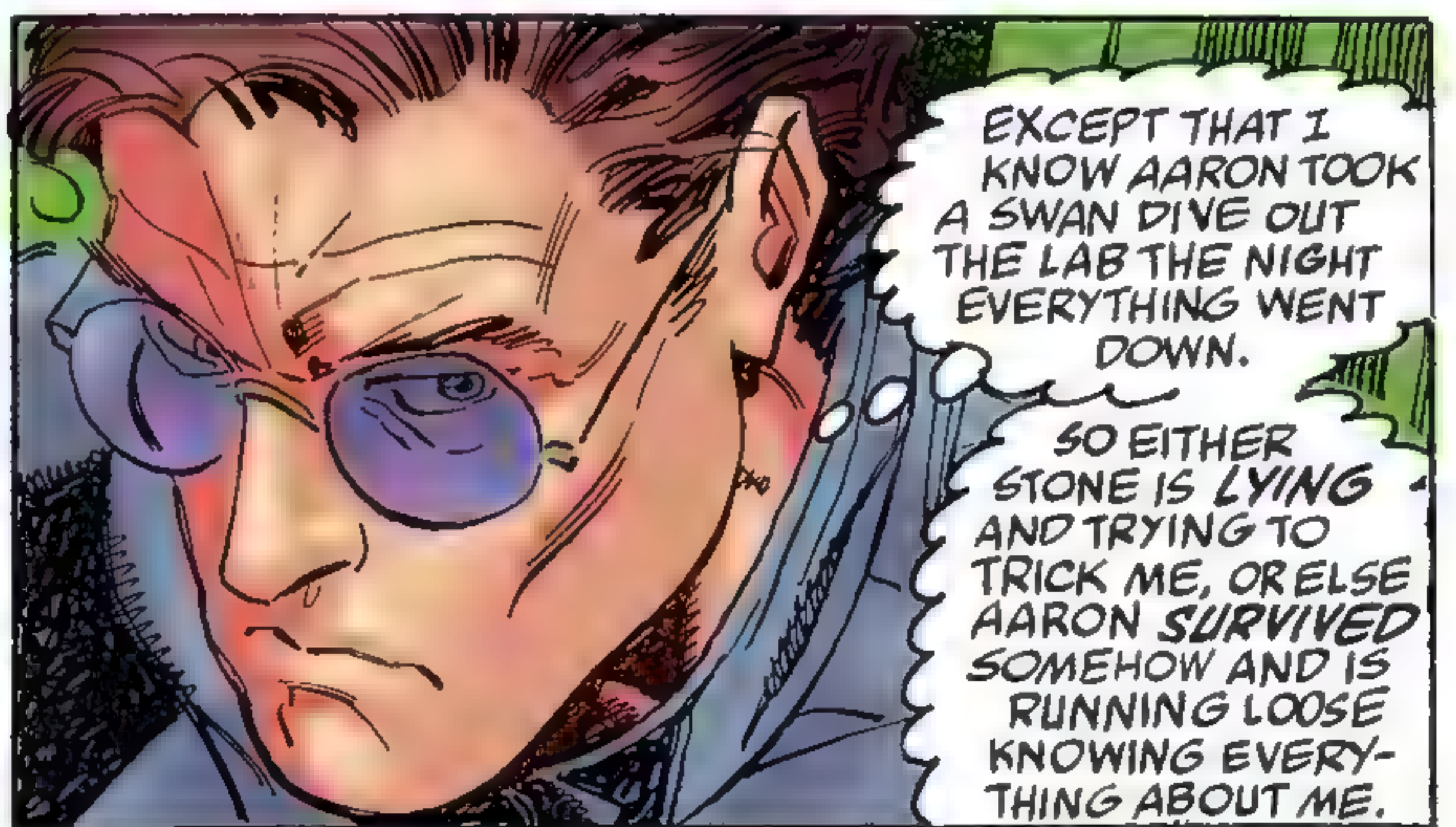
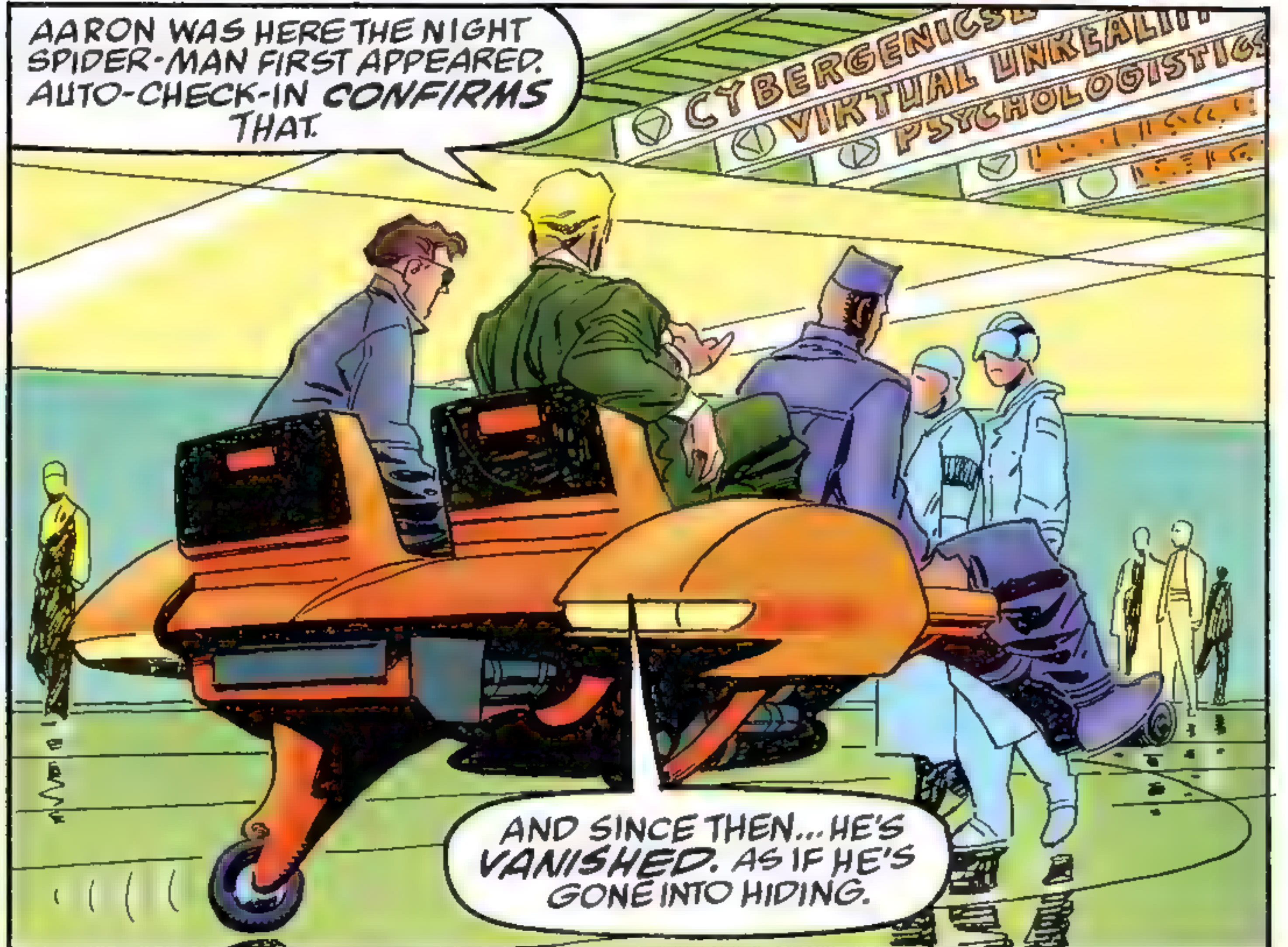
AND YOU'RE
OUT TO PROVE
I'M RIGHT?

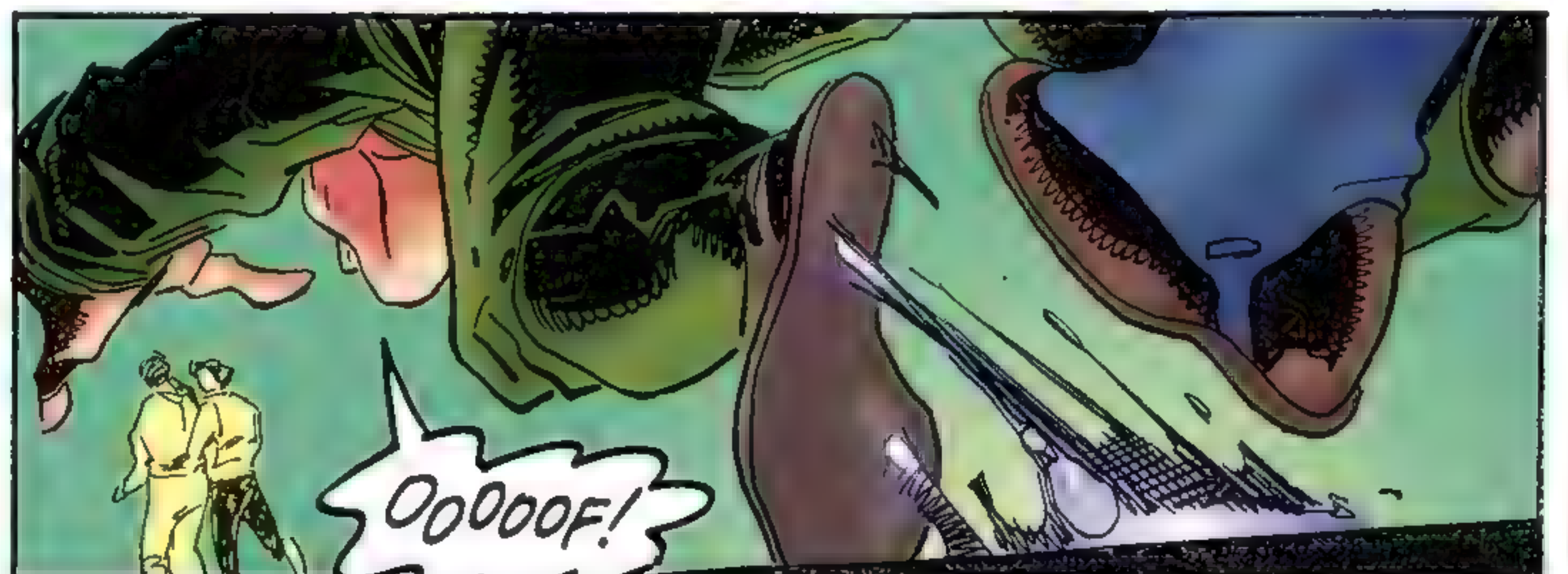
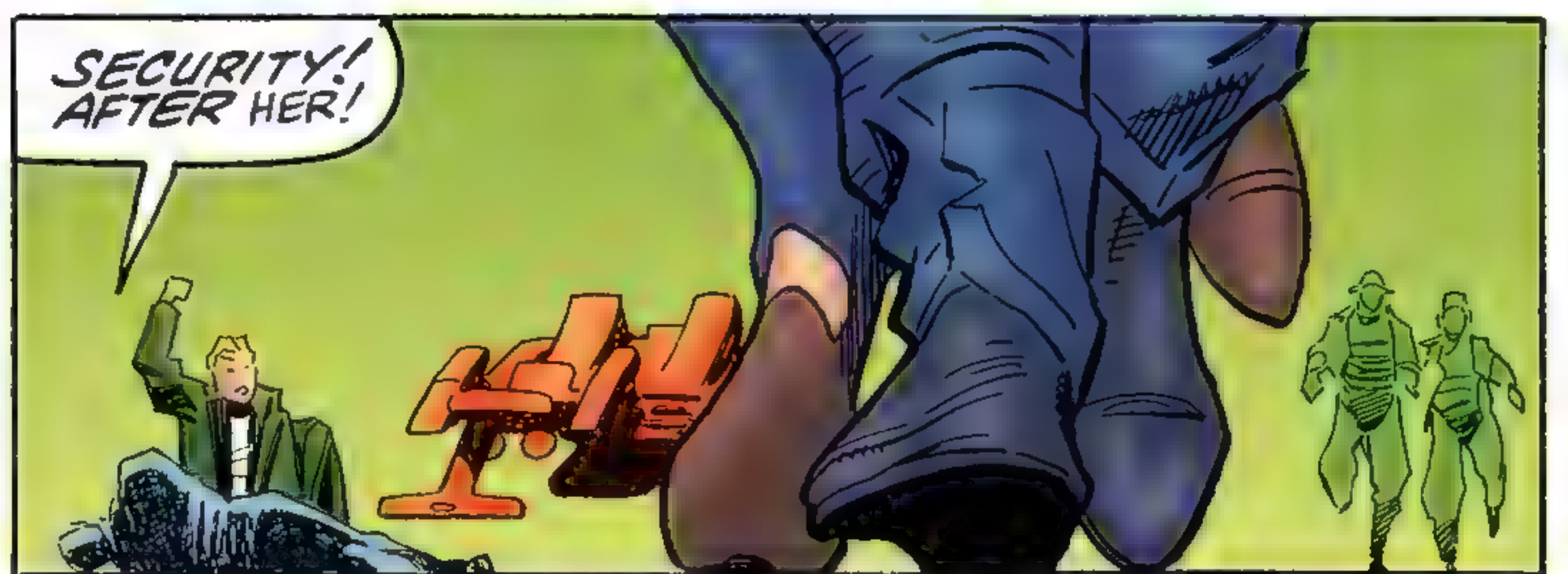
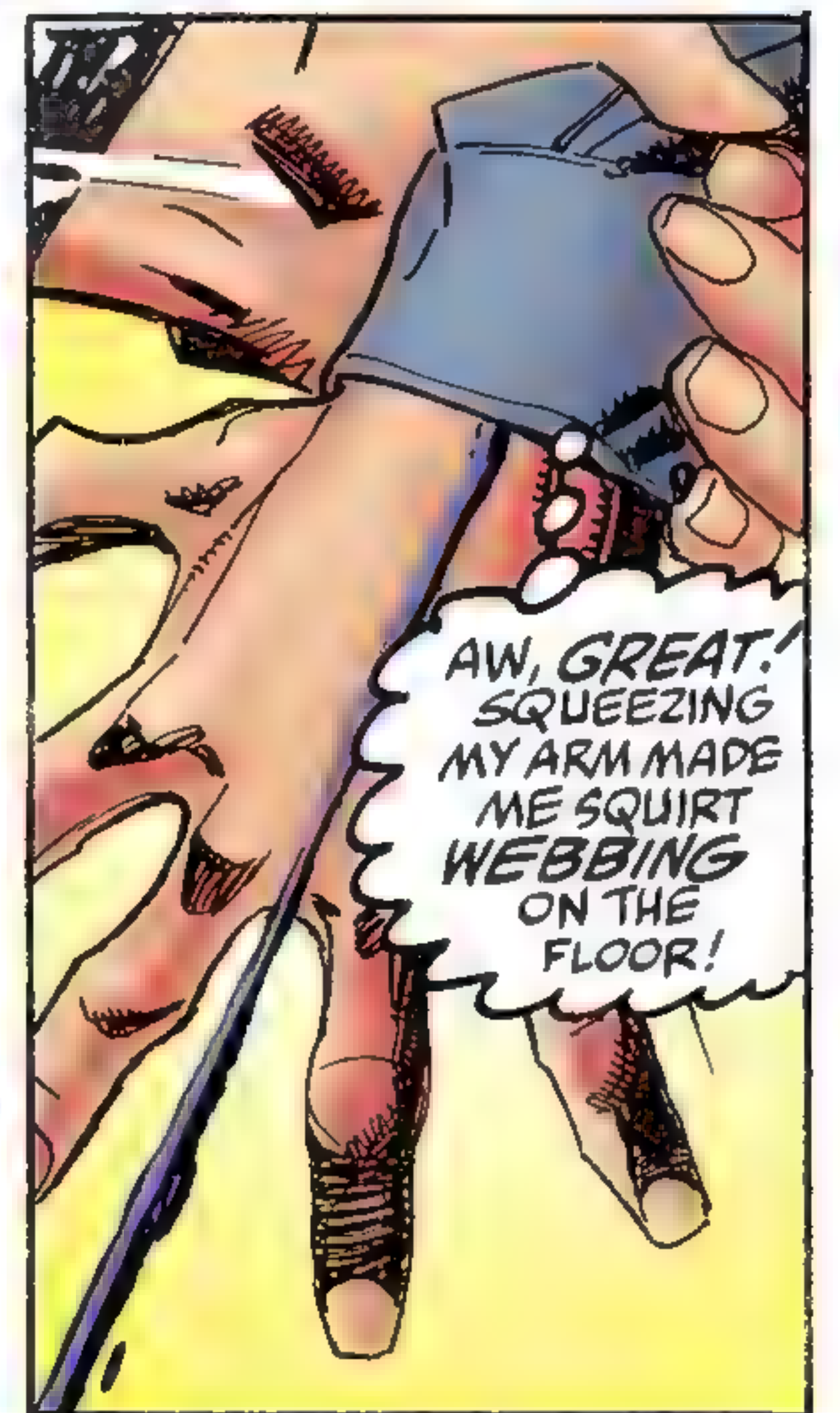
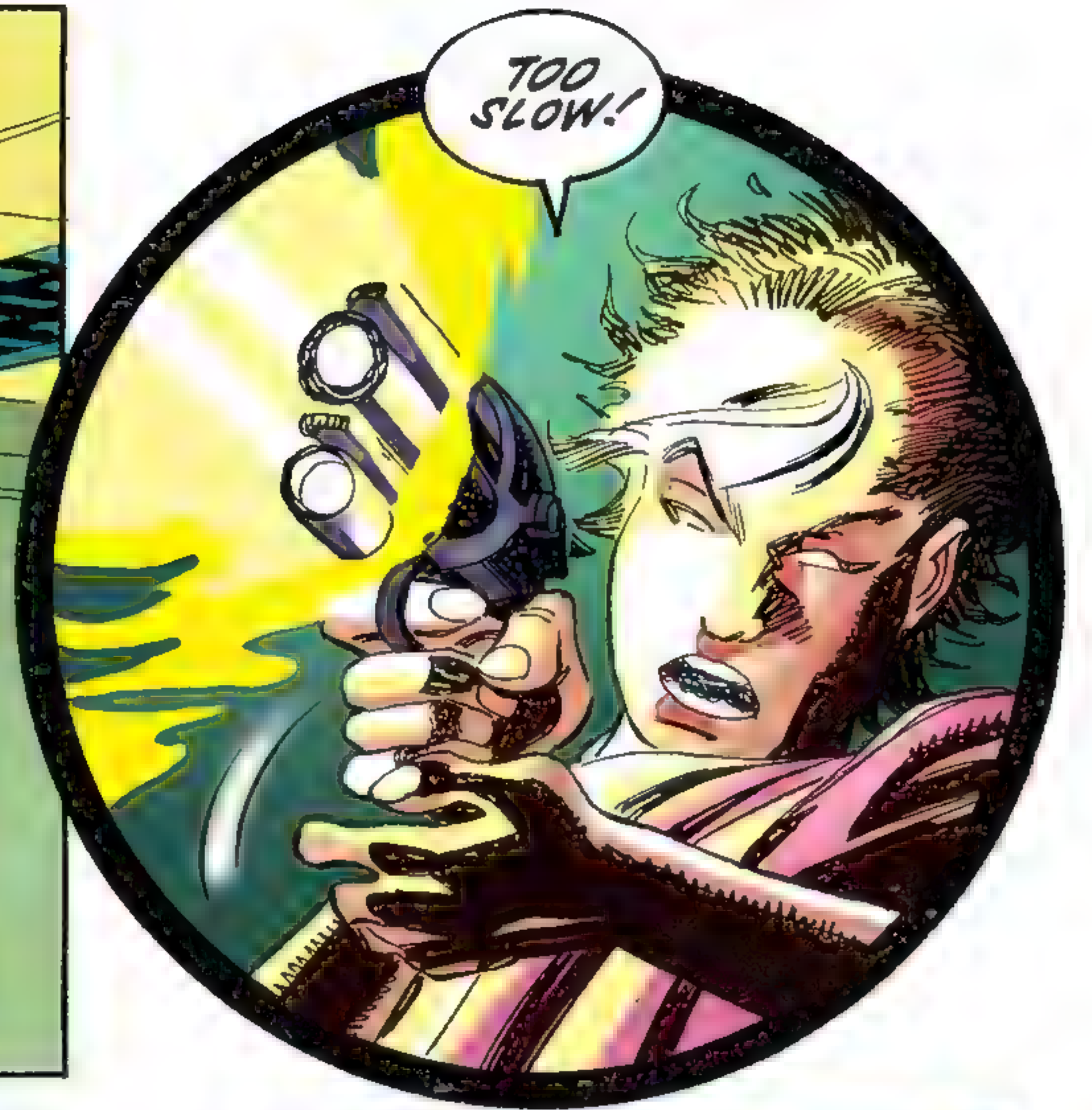
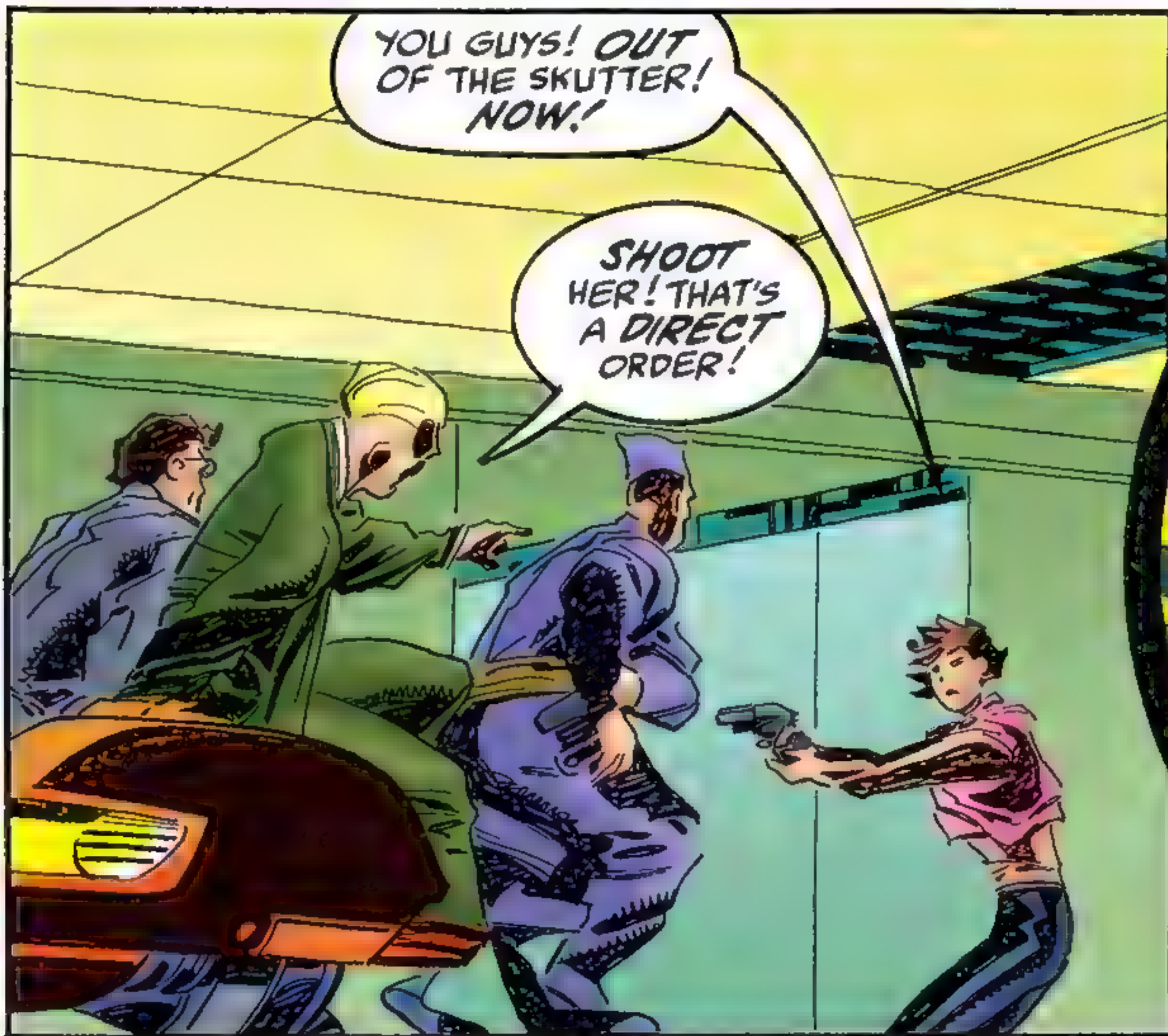
IN THIS CASE,
YOU ARE. ALCHEMAX
HAS PURCHASED
YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD
AND DISPOSITION THEREOF.

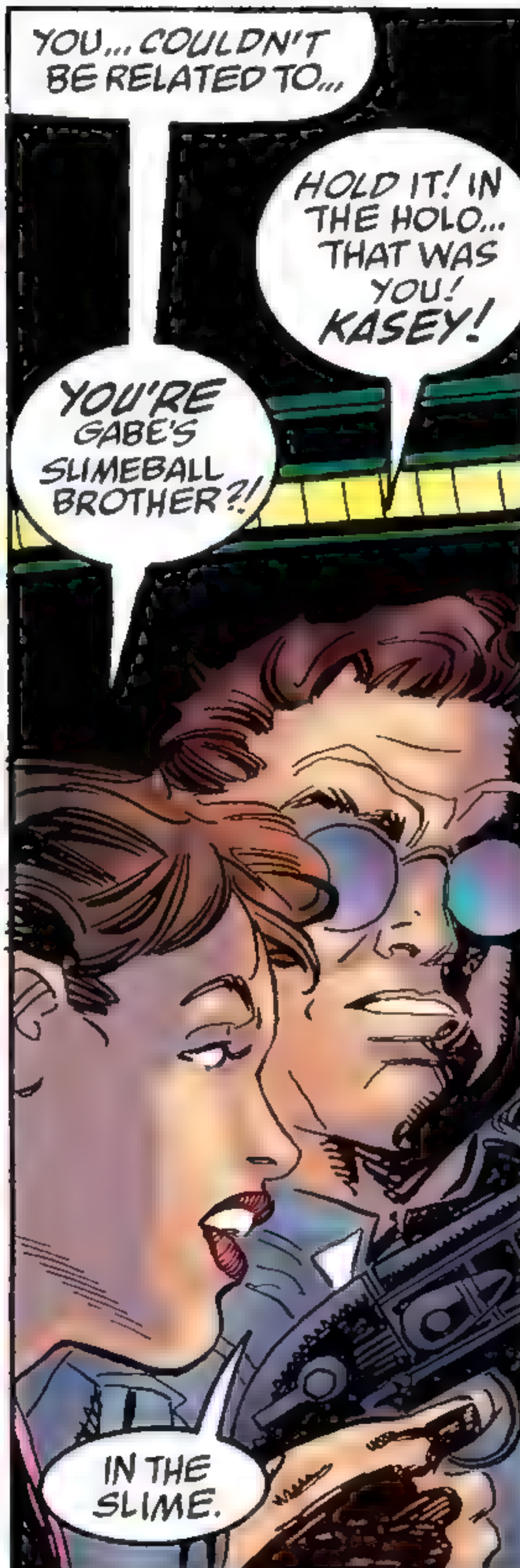
HELPS CLEAR OUT
JUDICIAL BACKLOG.
WHICH MEANS
YOU'RE AT
OUR
DISPOSAL.

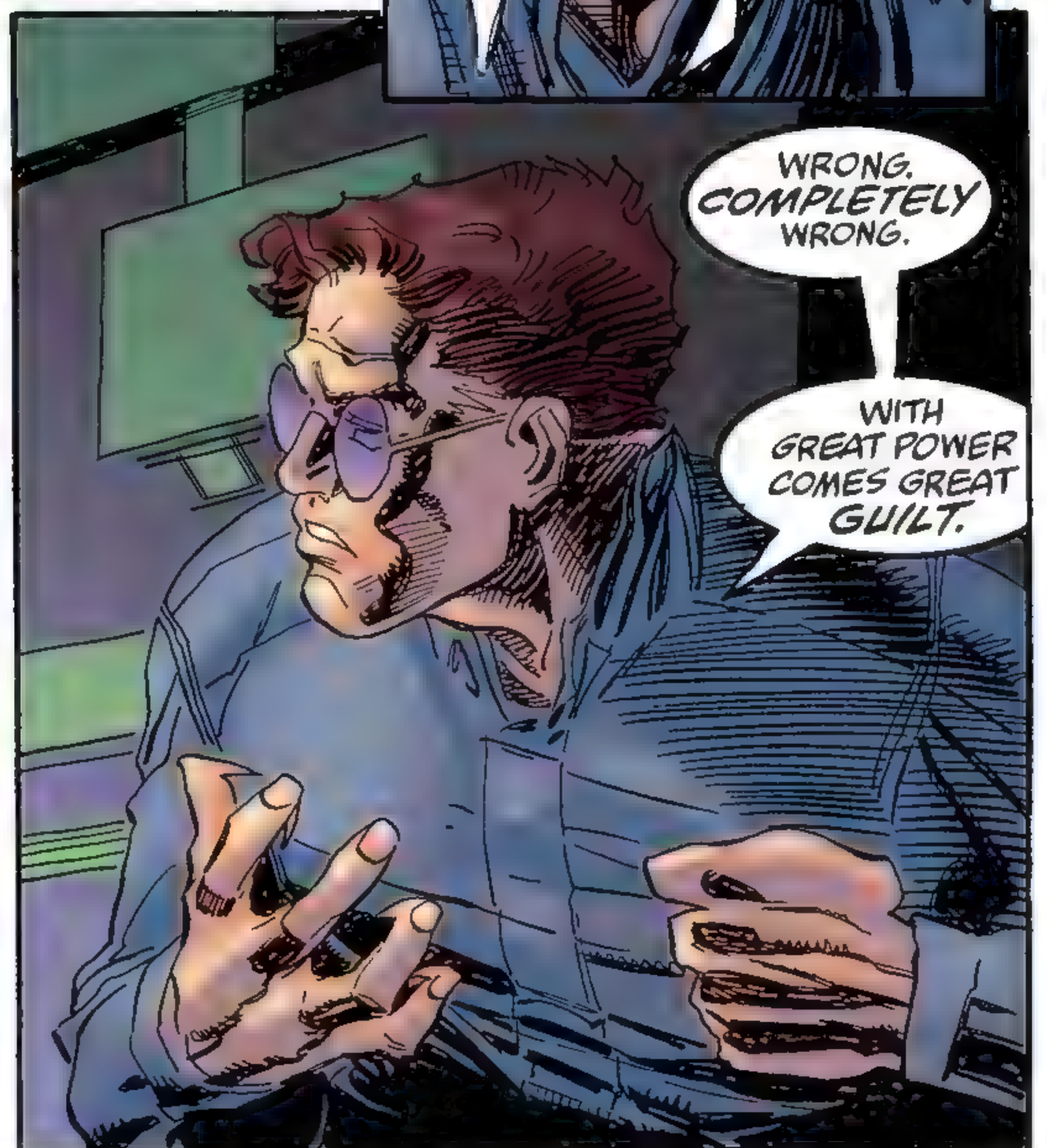
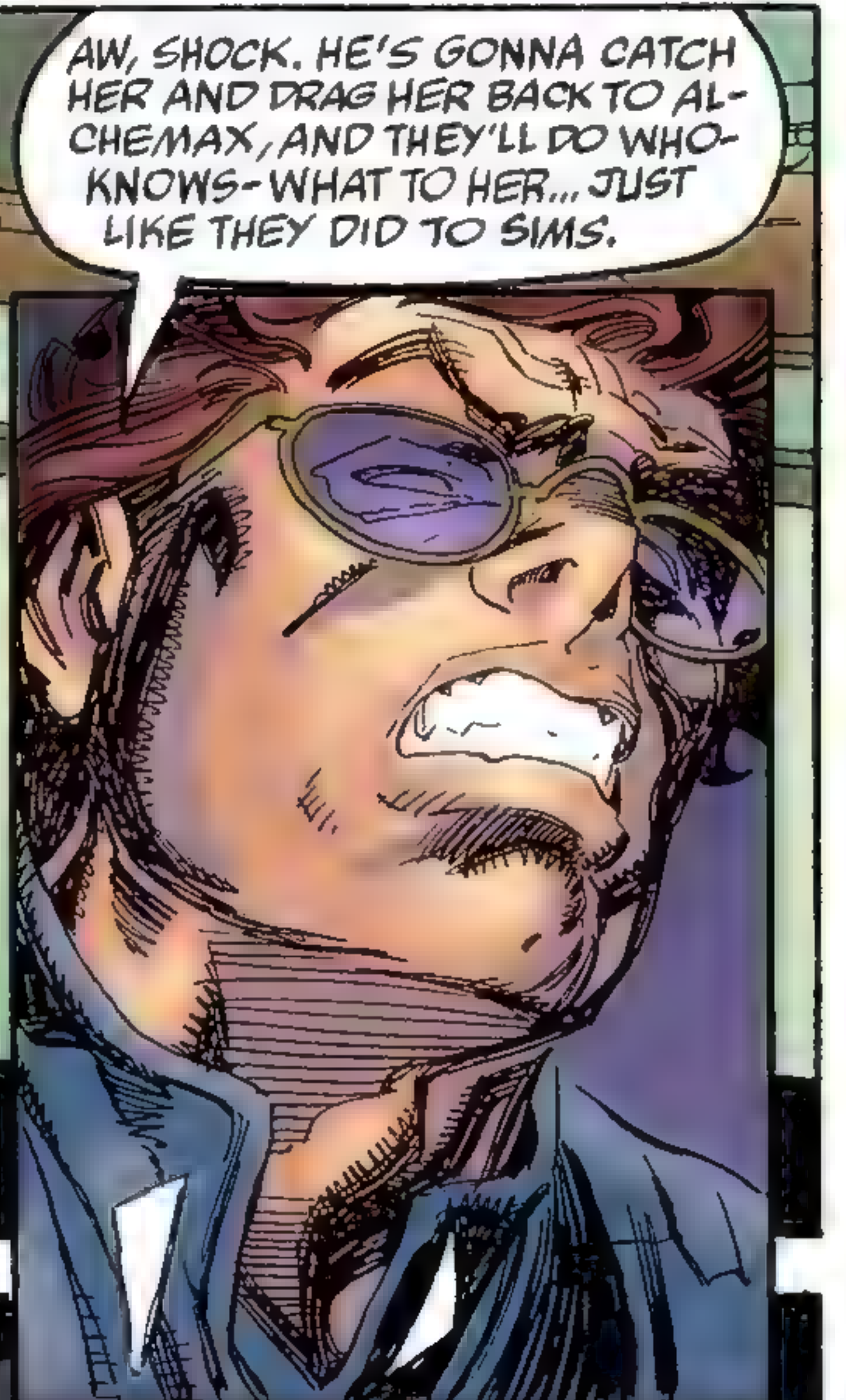
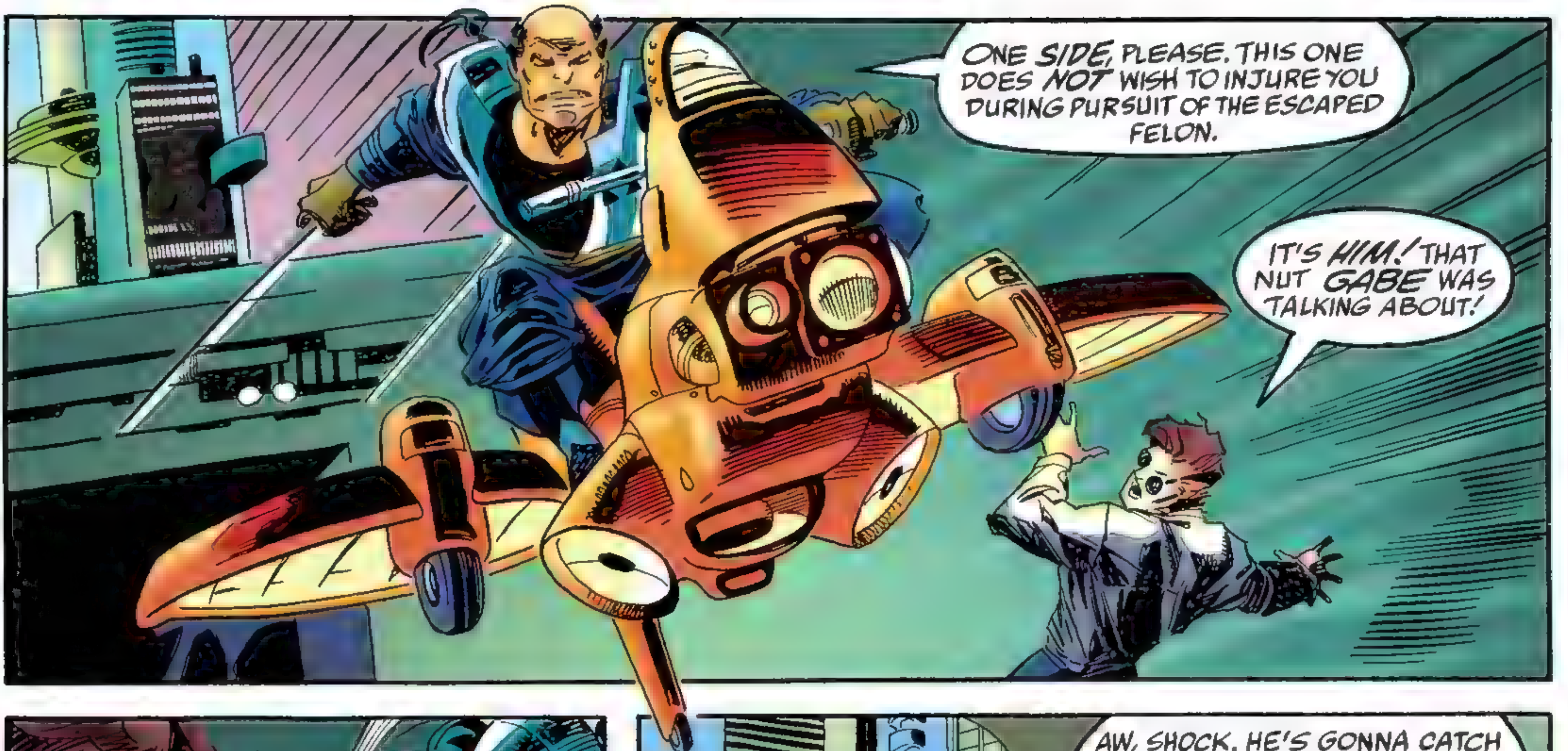
GENTLEMEN...
PREPARE HER
FOR EXPERIMENTATION.
AND RUN
HER THROUGH
THE SHOWERS
TWICE, PLEASE.

LORD
KNOWS WHAT
SHE'S BROUGHT
IN WITH HER.











PERFECT! *JUST* WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR!



THE METRO EXPRESS SHIPPING BOOTHS, THE *ONLY* PLACES IN THE CITY WHERE YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE PUBLIC EYE PRYING.

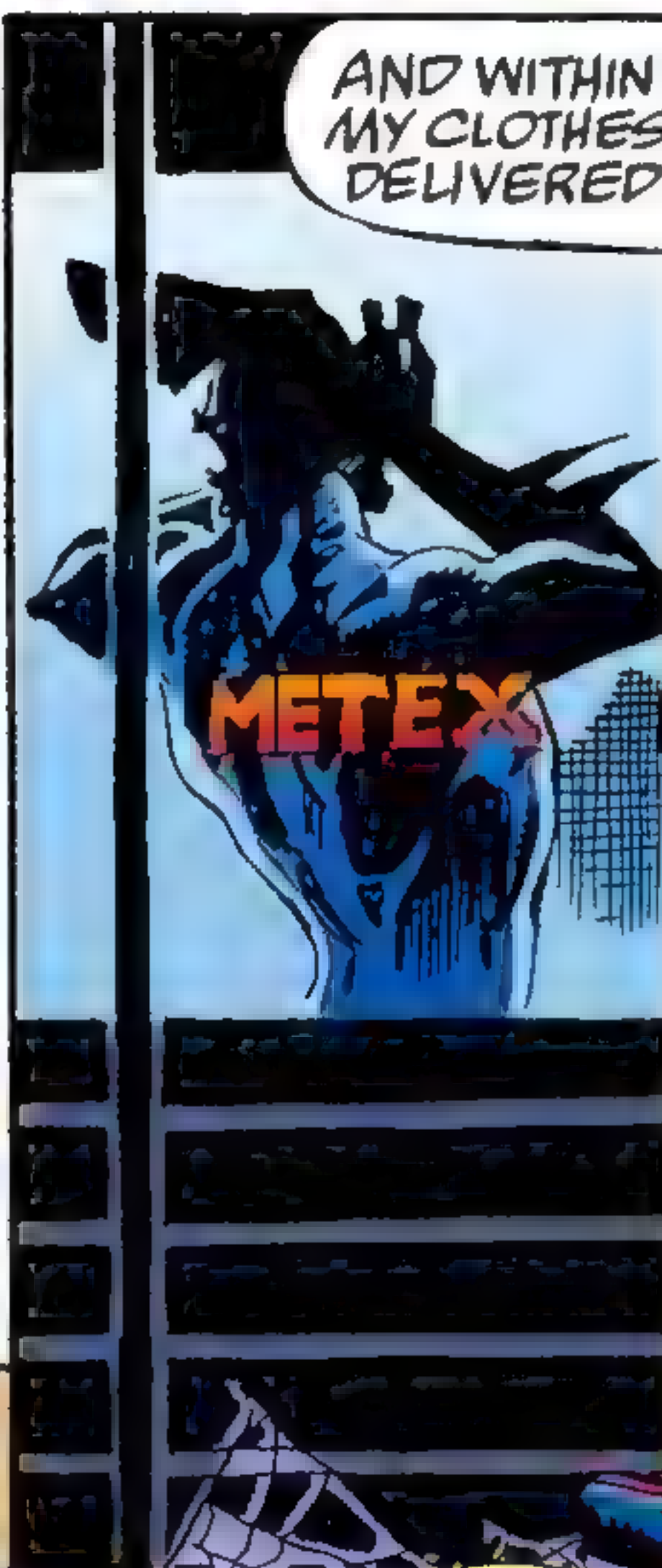


AND IT SOLVES WHAT I DO WITH MY CLOTHES.

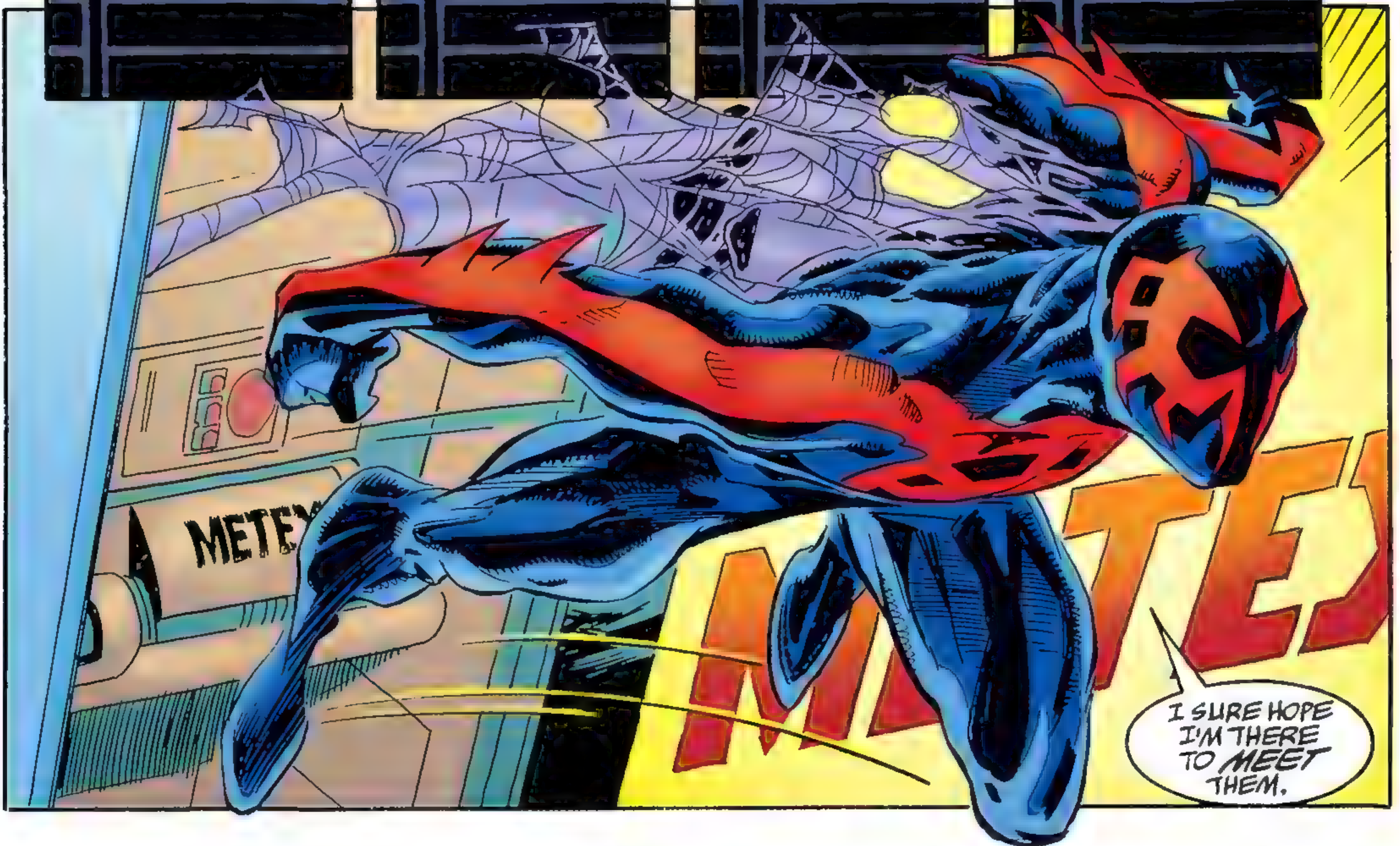
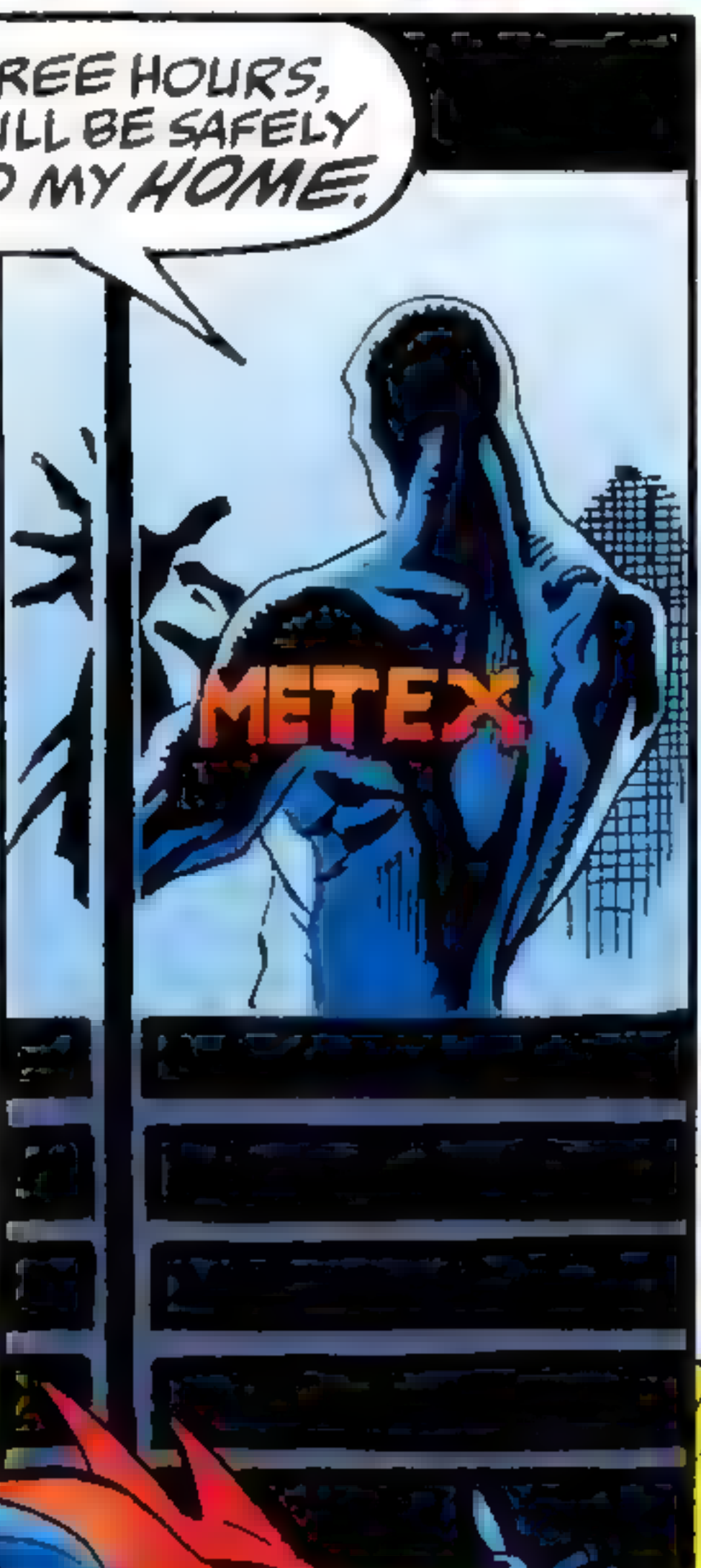


SLIP IT MY CARD, PUNCH IN THE DESTINATION... MY *APARTMENT*.

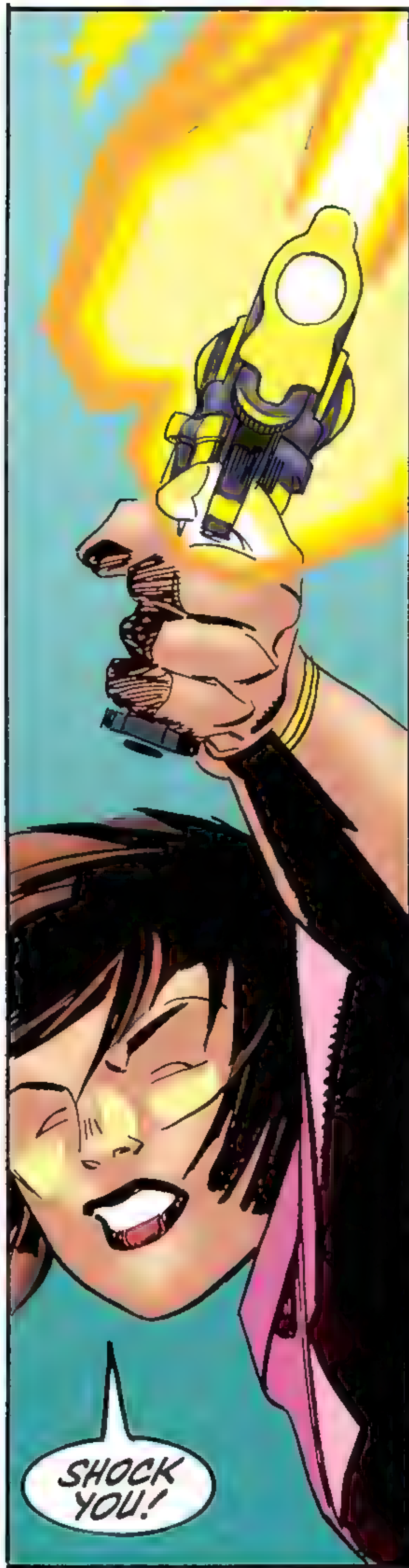
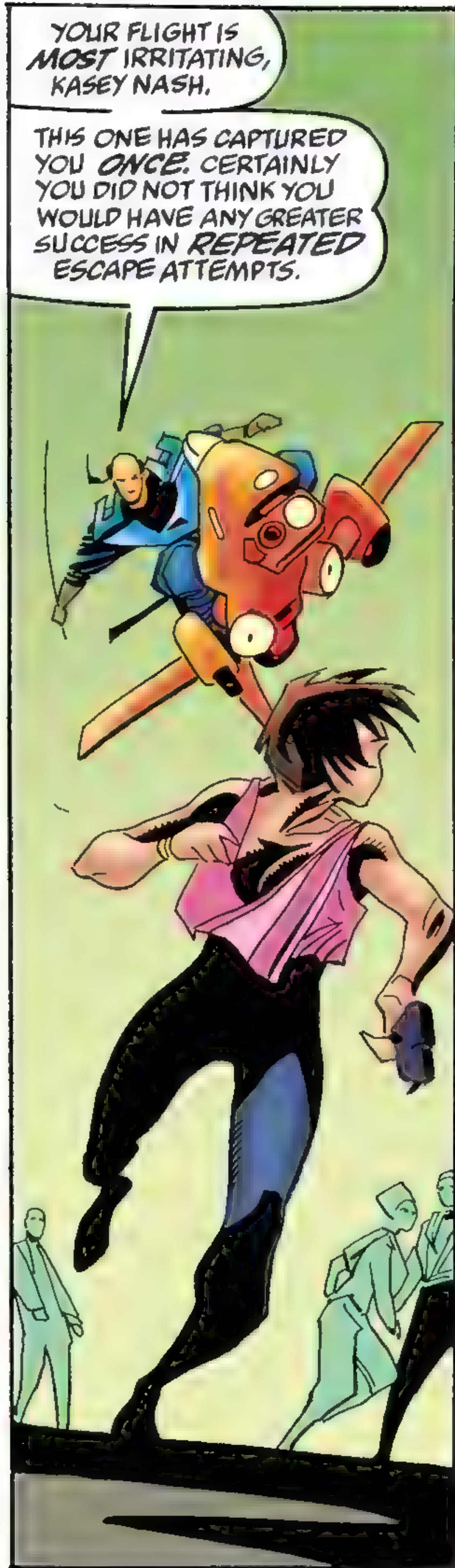
SHOVE MY CLOTHES INTO THE AUTO-PACKAGER...

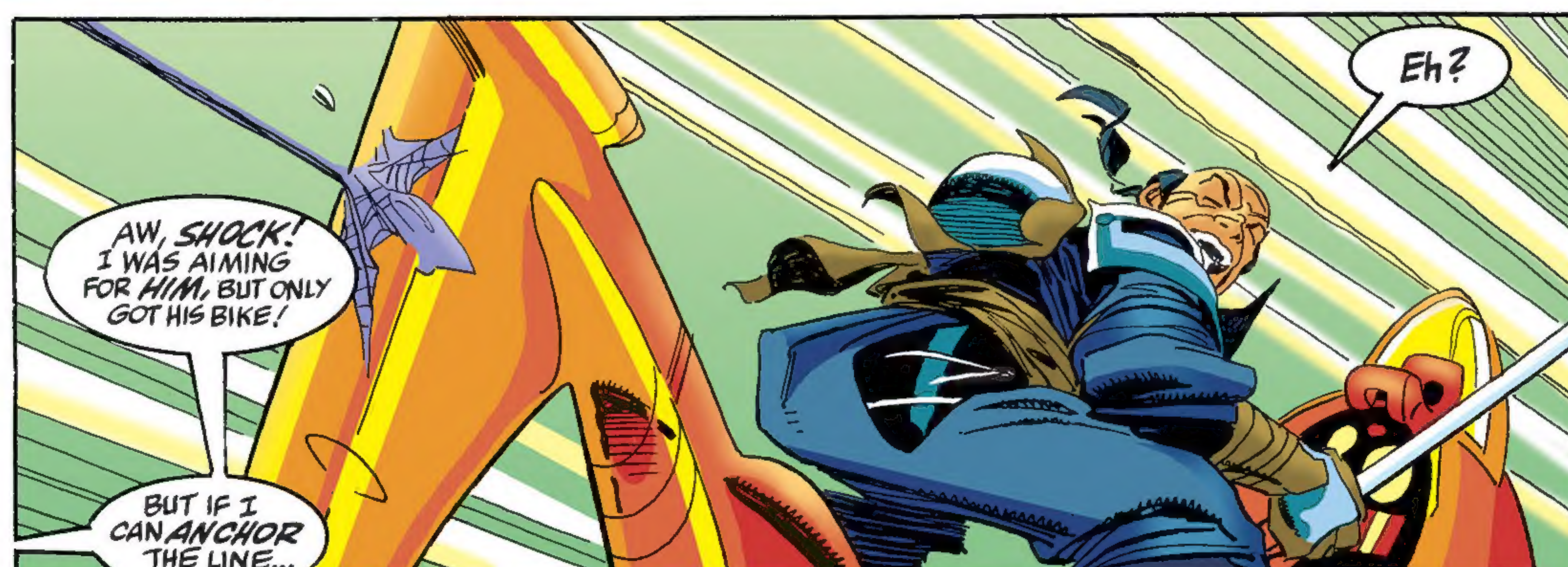
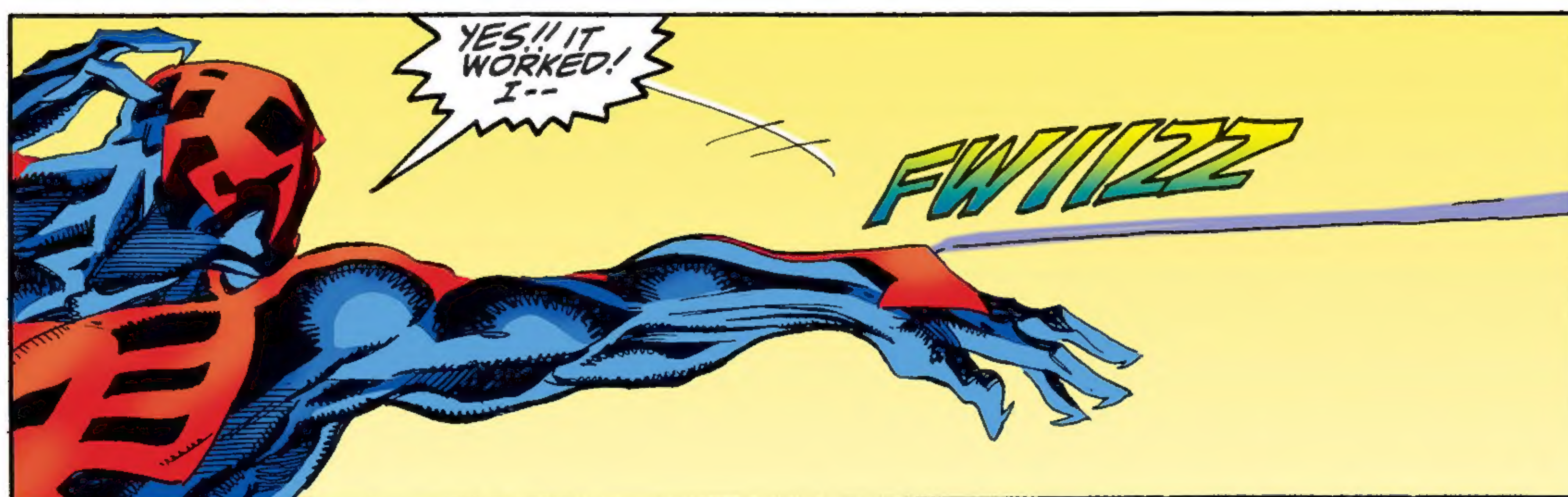
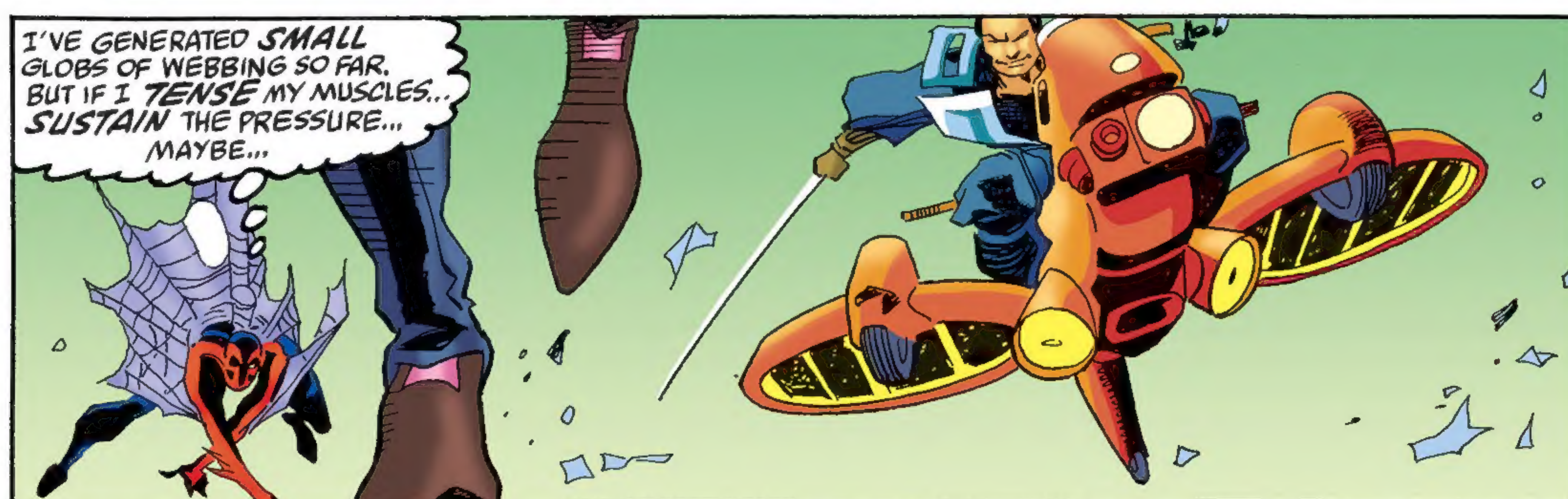
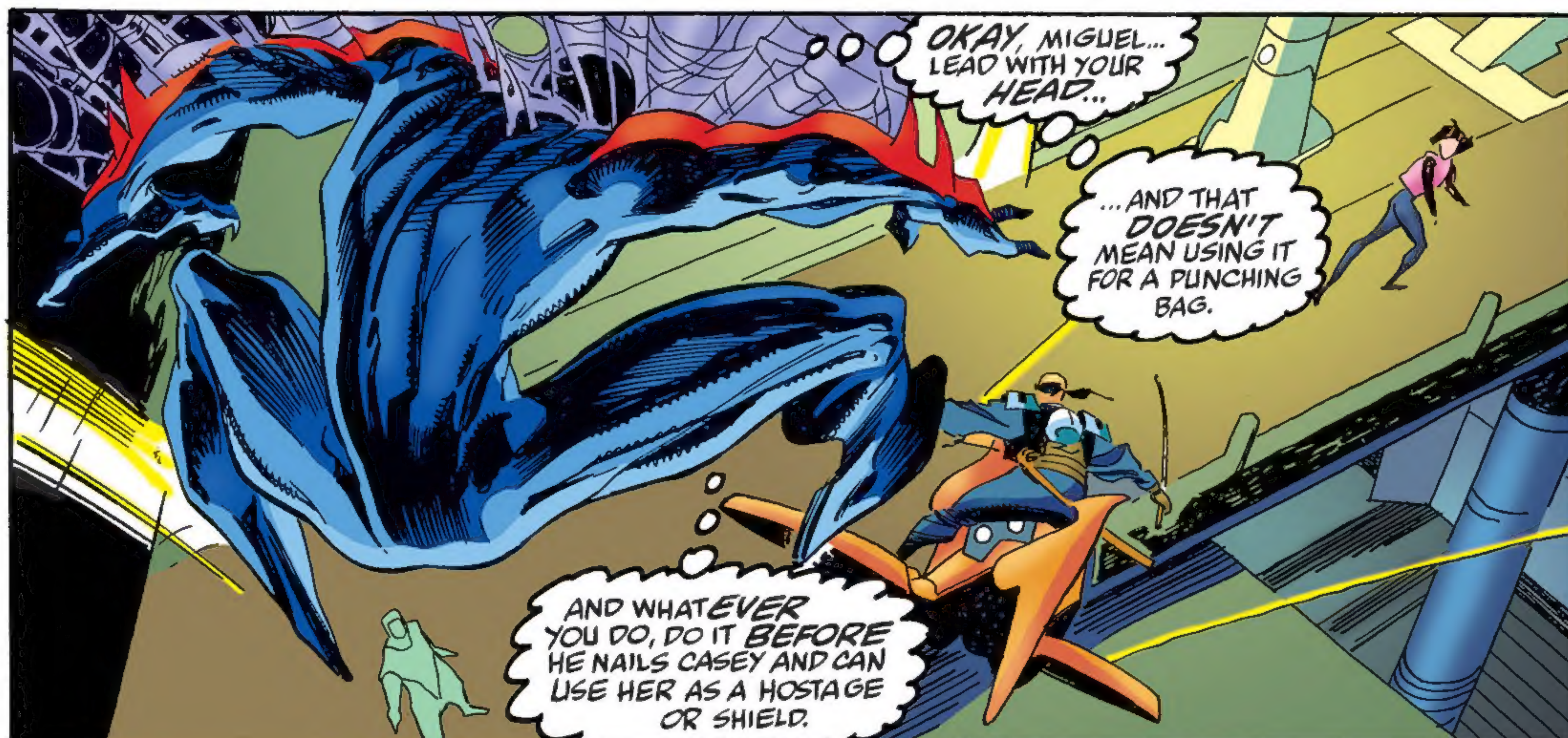


AND WITHIN THREE HOURS, MY CLOTHES WILL BE SAFELY DELIVERED TO MY *HOME*.



I SURE HOPE I'M THERE TO *MEET* THEM.





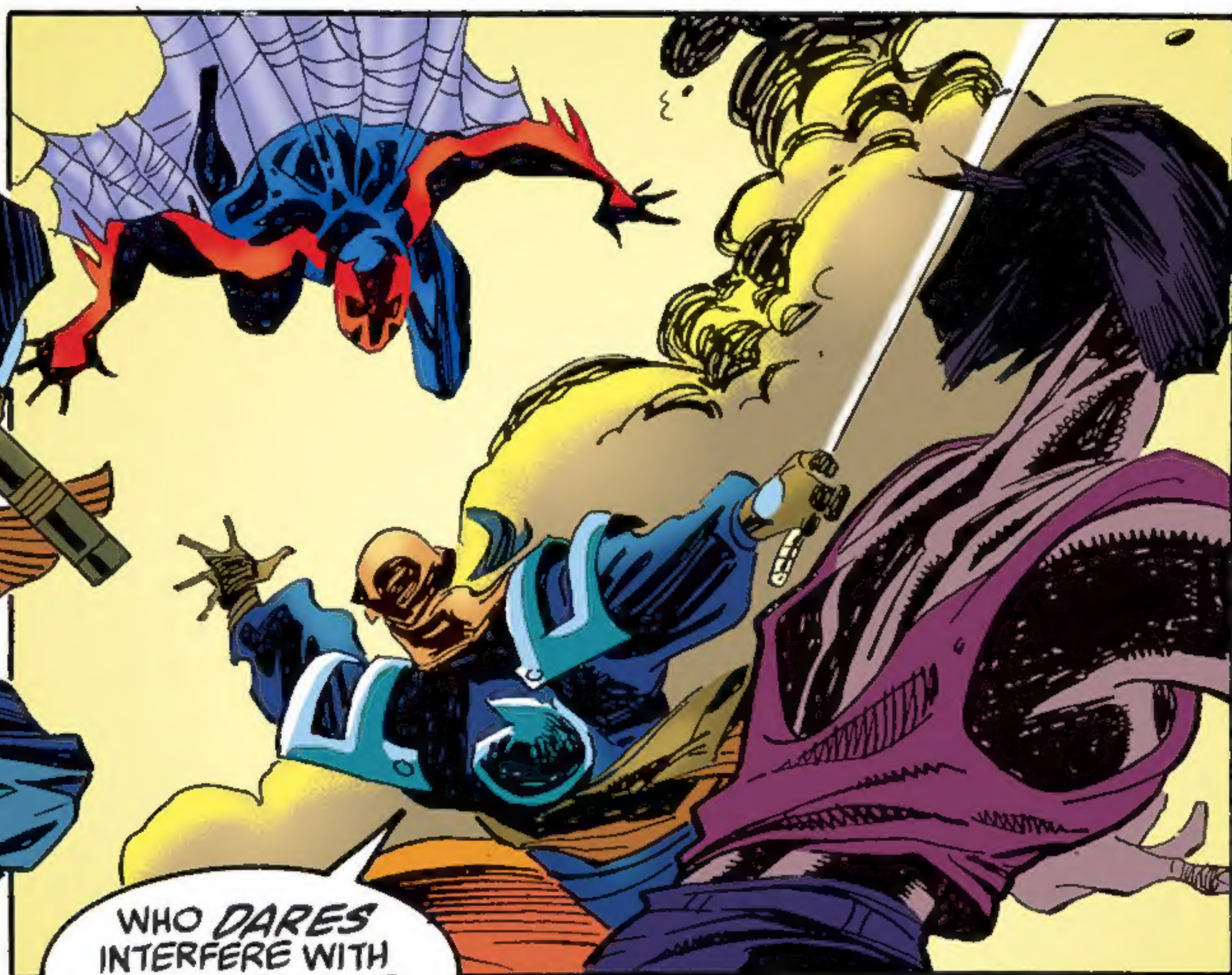


UNH!

WOW.

THIS
STUFF'S
STRONG.

RUN, LADY!
LEAVE HIM TO
ME!



WHO DARES
INTERFERE WITH
A MISSION OF THE
SPECIALIST?



SPEAK!
OR IS YOUR
TONGUE
PARALYZED
WITH
TERROR?



NO...

...IT'S...

...NOT.



OOOOOF!



Next:
"BLOOD OATH"



Z
O
N
S